Daily Report

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NOTICE TO READERS: An * indicates material not disseminated in electronic form.

NOTICE TO READERS: The United States Government recognizes the independence of Estonia, Latvia, and Lithuania.

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Arms Control & Disarmament

Bogachev Remarks on U.S. Monitoring Stance

LD1210182991 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1632 GMT 10 Oct 91

[By TASS military observer Vladimir Bogachev]

[Text] Moscow, 10 Oct—According to many U.S. specialists, the danger of transferring part of the Soviet nuclear weapons under the control of the republics striving for secession from the USSR, or of irresponsible groups participating in interethnic conflicts in the Soviet Union, has defined to a considerable degree the nature and scale of the recent disarmament initiative by U.S. President G. Bush.

At a news conference on 28 October in Washington, U.S. Defense Secretary Richard Cheney expressed confidence that "the Soviet Union preserves a centralized monitoring over its systems, and that the possibility of a non-sanctioned missile launch or of a transfer of nuclear armaments under the control of irresponsible persons is relatively small". However, the Pentagon chief expressed apprehension with regard to a situation which could appear in the USSR in future—"in two or three years"—and stressed that one of the two parts of Bush's program envisages some measures to be taken jointly with the USSR "on consolidating stability and security of the two sides' nuclear arsenals".

The dramatic events which developed in the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe have led to a change in priorities in Washington's policy. From now on the most important problem for the United States is not a counteraction to the "Soviet military threat" but a possibility of destabilizing the situation in the USSR, with unpredictable consequences. The U.S. mass media publish extensive materials on the possible consequences of Soviet nuclear armaments not under the control of the center. An observer of the "NEWSWEEK" magazine is particularly worried by the fact that "86 army divisions in non-Russian republics are equipped with nuclear battlefield weapons". "THE NEW YORK TIMES" does not exclude the possibility that these nuclear armaments "could be used in military actions between the republics".

A probable appearance of "new bosses" of the Soviet nuclear weapons may be assessed in different ways. However, it is obvious that such a development of events could turn out to be a catastrophe not only for the Soviet Union but for Europe and the whole world.

The stakes are too high. Even if there is only one chance out in a thousand of a seizure of nuclear weapons by irresponsible persons, it is necessary to take all possible measures in order to prevent its realization. In the present conditions it is particularly important to observe not only the letter but also the spirit of the multilateral treaty on the nonproliferation of nuclear weapons.

Not just the safeguarding of nuclear installations in the USSR is under discussion, though it is also very important. It seems that it is necessary to take the whole spectrum of political, juridical, military, and even economic decisions by all USSR republics which could ensure that the possibility of an armed attempt to seize nuclear weapons, or of establishing control over them by other means absolutely would have no prospects. Obviously an understanding of the necessity of all these measures by the United States and other Western countries will be necessary, and probably their assistance as well in maintaining a regime of nonproliferation of nuclear weapons in the region.

Obukhov Views U.S. Talks on Arms Reduction

LD1410133991 Moscow Central Television First Program Network in Russian 1500 GMT 15 Oct 91

[Studio interview with USSR Deputy Foreign Minister Aleksey Aleksandrovich Obukhov by Vitaliy Kobysh; from the "International Panorama" program—live or recorded]

[Text] [Kobysh] A major U.S. expert has just paid us a visit. He is Reginald Bartholomew, U.S. under secretary of state. We know that he has held consultations with the USSR on implementing the U.S. and USSR presidents' initiatives on arms reductions and destruction, primarily nuclear. Unfortunately, our media did not report on the substance of these talks, which is why we invited Aleksey Aleksandrovich Obukhov, USSR deputy foreign minister, to the studio to fill in the details of these talks. What are the principal results of these discussions?

[Obukhov] Bartholomew's arrival coincided with the announcement of the Soviet Union's counter-proposals on nuclear disarmament, set out by President Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev in his televised speech on 5 October. This speech, and also George Bush's announcement on 27 September, predetermined the aims of Bartholomew's mission. Specific issues were examined during the consultations with the U.S. under secretary of state, to do with practical implementation of the programs promulgated by the U.S. and USSR presidents.

The first thing to note is the constructive nature of these discussions. In our delegation were authorized representatives of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic, Ukraine, Kazakhstan, and Belorussia. The main political outcome of the consultations is that the parties reaffirmed their determination to press ahead with the practical implementation of the measures announced by the U.S. and USSR presidents, without any linkages or preliminary conditions whatsoever. In essence, this means that once the treaty on strategic and offensive armaments has been ratified, as intended, by the United States and USSR in the near future, the two sides will have achieved a new and extremely wide-ranging agreement on specific steps to reduce their military power and strengthen strategic stability, as well as trust.

It is also important that the supervision of the implementation of all these far-reaching measures will be carried out on the basis of an exchange of information, which does not envisage protracted negotiations on verification methods. How will this be done? The U.S. and USSR presidents' joint initiative demonstrates a new maturity in Soviet-U.S. relations, which are increasingly becoming those of partnership and mutual trust. Alongside this, the entire process of real disarmament has been given a powerful impetus: other countries are being encouraged to play an active role in the process as well. I am convinced that the very possibility of such a major joint Soviet-American initiative arose thanks to the profound democratic changes in Soviet society, themselves made possible by the decisive victory over the right-wing conservative putsch in August.

During the consultations with Bartholomew, the Soviet side represented the sum total of the interests of our republics. The State Council approved the joint initiative on nuclear disarmament put forward by presidents Mikhail Gorbachev and George Bush when it met on 11 October. Alongside the specific proposals contained in Mikhail Sergeyevich Gorbachev's announcement, of particular importance is the unilateral moratorium that we have declared on the testing of nuclear weapons. We hope that the other nuclear powers, particularly the United States, of course, will find it possible to subscribe to this and finally find a way of ending dangerous experiments with nuclear weapons in the very near future, once and for all. The recent sitting of the USSR Foreign Ministry collegium examined in detail the ministry's tasks arising from the U.S. and USSR presidents' initiatives. A number of practical steps to accelerate the disarmament dialogue in all aspects, in all fields, were outlined. There will also be new contacts with the U.S. side, and we expect that they will bring results.

Program Views Arms Cut Proposals

LD1310190191 Moscow Central Television First Program Network in Russian 1500 GMT 13 Oct 91

[From the "International Panorama" program, presented by Vitaliy Kobysh, with correspondent Boris Kalyagin report from Washington, with portions recorded]

[Text] [Kobysh] The world—especially the United States, Western Europe, and Japan—is closely watching the changes in our country. They are not only watching; they are acting and reacting. At the same time they are experiencing serious alarm while observing the disintegration of such a large nuclear power as the Soviet Union. Of course, this is what the U.S. President's most important initiative is connected with. He announced plans to eliminate all U.S. tactical and some other types of weapons. As we all know, Moscow's response was immediate: It announced an even greater quantity of eliminated weapons. As a result, the following sentence, which is music to one's ears, began to go around the world: The arms race has been replaced by a disarmament race. A disarmament race. That's nice, that's fine, although so far it does not cover every country and every type of weapon. But this is undoubtedly a serious breakthrough. How is it seen in the United States?

[Correspondent Boris Kalyagin] Washington today speaks of a principally new approach to arms control. So far the sides have strictly observed the principle of strict parity in nuclear forces. In preparing agreements, experts carefully used to count every single warhead, lest the potential opponent might have a few missiles more. And that was in conditions when the nuclear arsenals of each side allowed it to wipe the other off the face of the earth several times over. Now the Soviet Union has undertaken to destroy thousands more strategic weapons than was envisaged by the strategic offensive weapons treaty.

Some U.S. military specialists assume that the new Soviet initiative results in part from Moscow's intention to eliminate nuclear weapons on the territories of Ukraine, Belorus, and Kazakhstan. But in any event this step reflects growing trust in the relations between the USSR and the United States. Also, the Soviet president's agreement to examine the idea of creating a nonnuclear system of antimissile defense, to which we had been firmly against, has made an impression here. Americans admit that the measures announced by the Soviet leader go much further than those declared by the U.S. President.

Not all of these give rise to enthusiasm from the U.S. Administration. So far Washington is clearly not ready to halt nuclear tests or reduce its strategic nuclear forces, by another half. The U.S. military has also come out against the destruction of nuclear bombs carried by U.S. tactical aircraft stationed in Western Europe. And although optimistic statements have appeared in the U.S. press that the arms race the USSR and the United States have been involved in for more than four decades is nearing an end, quite a few American politicians hold another point of view.

[Begin recording] [Kalygin] Senator, after the initiative by our presidents, do you think the arms race is coming to an end?

[John Warner, member of the Senate Armed Services Committee, former U.S. naval secretary; in English fading to Russian translation] No, I do not, because your country and the United States are continuing to modernize their nuclear arsenals. I think that in respect of conventional types of weapons, such as tanks, this race has significantly lessened. But it is important that both countries continue to modernize nuclear weapons so that we have more stability and fewer chances for doing what we fear most of all—delivering the first strike.

But the Bush and Gorbachev decisions were very well received in the United States. They represent an important step forward toward greater stability in relations between our countries.

[Kalyagin] What is your attitude to President Gorbachev's proposal to cut strategic offensive weapons by a further 50 percent?

[Warner] I think we will review this proposal very seriously. But after all such cuts we have to preserve stability, and we are moving toward that.

[Kalyagin] Have you discussed in your committee, on armed services, the decisions adopted by the two presidents?

[Warner] Yes, we had a preliminary discussion. I have also had an opportunity to meet the President and exchange views with him.

[Kalyagin] What is your appraisal of President Gorbachev's proposals, your colleague's appraisal?

[Warner] A very positive appraisal. There was a very favorable reaction in the Congress. We will soon be examining a batch of proposals on providing assistance to your people, in particular, food and medicines. But such assistance should be appropriately answered in the form of a further reduction of tension. For instance, if we provide assistance for you this winter, and in our country a great desire to do so is being expressed, you have to show that you are ready to take further steps in lessening military tension between the Soviet Union and the United States, and the Soviet Union and the European countries.

[Kalyagin] What steps are you expecting from us?

[Warner] Why do you have so many plants manufacturing tanks? Let us convert these enterprises so that they produce goods for the civilian population, goods which you could export, sell to other countries. You have so many talented engineers. You have to remove them from military production and send them to civilian industries.

[Kalyagin] Would you provide us with technical cooperation for such conversion?

[Warner] Yes, we would provide you with technical assistance, but you also have to carry out economic reforms.

[Kalyagin] Do you intend helping President Bush to realize the cutbacks in nuclear weapons.

[Warner] Yes, Congress intends to cooperate with President Bush and indirectly with President Gorbachev, in order to help in the implementation of the decision announced by them, and also in order to provide the Soviet republics with food and medical assistance, and technical cooperation. [end recording]

'International Review' Program on Arms Cuts

LD1610111891

[Editorial Report] Moscow All-Union Radio First Program and Orbita Networks in Russian at 1130 GMT on 13 October carries the scheduled 30-minute "International Review" program presented by Andrey Ptashnikov.

The first topic is the latest nuclear disarmament moves. Vladimir Nikolayevich Chernyshev, disarmament expert and deputy general director of the Center for International and Military- Political Research at the Russian-American University, sums up the new U.S. and Soviet initiatives and explains the reasons for them: fears of a Soviet invasion of Western Europe have passed; the United States believes a much smaller nuclear arsenal will still be effective; the Soviet arsenal is a burden; Bush has a good relationship with Gorbachev; the U.S. presidential election is looming; and the Soviet putsch attempt has, paradoxically, given a strong boost to the U.S. initiatives, since moderates or progressives are now determining Soviet policy.

Ptashnikov says that the Soviet response has been quick and specific.

Chernyshev replies: "In his reply, President Gorbachev agreed with Bush to a large extent—concerning radical cuts of ground and sea-launched tactical nuclear weapons, the removal of strategic systems from combat duty, the halting of the development of specific types of offensive arms. In addition to eliminating all the nuclear artillery shells and nuclear warheads for the ground-launched tactical missile we are also eliminating all the nuclear mines which have long since disappeared from the U.S. arsenals. Apart from that, nuclear warheads for the air defense missiles, also absent from the U.S. arsenals, are likewise being removed from our troops. Partially these warheads will be eliminated and partially they will be concentrated at central bases.

"All tactical nuclear weapons are being removed from waterborne warships and multi-purpose submarines. These weapons, along with the nuclear weapons of the ground-based naval air force, are being stored in central storage facilities. We have made proposals to go further as far as certain things are concerned—for instance in the area of tactical weapons; not simply to store the naval tactical weapons, but to have them eliminated.

"Another addition is of great importance too: it makes it possible, as it were, to complete the whole range of all tactical nuclear weapons. I have in mind Gorbachev's proposal to remove all nuclear warheads—aviation bombs and aviation missiles—from cobat units of front-line tactical air force on a reciprocal basis and to have them put in central storage facilities."

Ptashnikov asks whether Soviet security will suffer from the complete removal of tactical nuclear weapons. Chernyshev explains that these weapons are for limited nuclear wars, which the USSR believes to be impossible. In any case, the changed situation deprives them of their point. Also, they could fall into the wrong hands. The United States will remove all tactical nuclear weapons from surface ships and strike submarines. Soviet tactical aircraft cannot reach U.S. territory.

Ptashnikov asks whether the Soviet response matches the unilateral U.S. steps on strategic offensive arms. Chernyshev thinks that in the main, they do. The USSR is withdrawing more missiles from combat duty, and this is right, since "we will have to destroy more weapons". But two other Soviet moves are "frankly, hard to explain". All railway ICBMs will be kept at their permanent sites.

Chernyshev continues: "Would it not have been enough, for reciprocity, to confine ourselves to removing from combat duty the heavy bombers and a certain number of ICBMs? Why has the United States, for its part, not laid up at their bases some of their nuclear missile submarines? In practice our extra step in the placing of the permanent establishments of our mobile ICBMs renders their deployment pointless, since it substantially reduces their vulnerability to a first strike. They become, in effect, analogous to silo-based ICBMs, only more vulnerable. This is clearly at odds with the concept of strategic stability to which the Americans themselves adhere, and with the agreed aims of future Soviet-U.S. talks on strategic offensive arms. A second factor is this: Gorbachev has announced that we have decided on a more radical reduction of strategic offensive arms than envisaged by the strategic offensive arms treaties. Here, too, the question arises, whether our leadership is not in too much of a hurry. True, Gorbachev said we would welcome a similar step by the United States; but it would seem that this game of raising the stakes could fail to pay off. It's hard to believe that Washington, having for a long time defended every one of its strategic nuclear warheads so fiercely at the Geneva talks, will quickly agree to cut their number by thousands. Well, all the same, in spite of these two remarks, I would like to say that for our country's security, our extra steps play no great role.

"In order to defend oneself against and deter another country from risky actions, it is sufficient to have much less than 5,000 nuclear warheads, the nuclear stockpiles remaining at our disposal will be capable of continuing to play the role of a factory that mutually deters us from unleashing a war."

Ptashnikov asks: "You know, I notice that Gorbachev's reply to Bush ignores the U.S. President's proposal to get rid of all ICBMs with separable individually-aimed warheads. What would be your comment on that?"

Chernyshev replies: "That is not a simple issue. I would even say that it is very complicated. Of course, there's no doubt that giving up missiles with separable warheads and going over to single- block, i.e. one-warhead missiles would strengthen strategic stability. But Bush's proposal on this, in my view, is obviously one-sided. It takes no account of the difference in the structures of the missile forces of the USSR and the United States. For historical reasons, the main strike force in our strategic forces is the land-based ICBMs, while in those of the United States it is ballistic missiles on submarines. So if Bush's proposal were accepted, we would be forced to eliminate far more missiles and warheads than the Americans. But Washington doesn't want to eliminate its sea-based ballistic missiles with separable warheads. Can such a one-sided approach be considered fair? Surely not. And it is not just a question of the military strategic aspect, but mainly of the economic aspect. Not only is disarmament expensive, but we would also have to alter radically the structure of our strategic forces and rearmament forces. That is clearly not a course we can afford to take."

Ptashnikov: "Gorbachev is willing to discuss nonnuclear antimissile defense systems. Yet we have constantly protested against changing the antimissile defense treaty. Have we changed our minds?

Chernyshev recalls that in this same studio he and Ptashnikov strongly criticized the U.S. SDI. He adds: "However, everything is changing. The military and strategic situation has changed. Relations between our countries have changed. They are now changing into partnerlike relations. "Finally, the U.S. SDI program has itself changed. It now provides for creating an ABM system with only limited goals—to defend oneself from accidentally launched missiles or against missiles that have been launched on the orders of those like Saddam Husayn. Evidently the time has indeed come to get to the bottom of this issue calmly, without superfluous emotion, to get to the bottom of it taking account of the changes that have taken place, endeavoring to be objective and without fanning up redundant emotions and having renounced the stereotypes of the cold war times. "It is always impossible to halt a logical process, first and foremost in the area of arms. In new conditions new compromises must be sought so that technical progress is not at loggerheads with the old way of thinking. The time has come to think of how to plan technological progress in the service of our countries' security. This can now be done through joint efforts. Incidentally, Gorbachev's statement contains one specific proposal on this score: to examine, together with the Americans, a possibility of setting up joint early warning systems against nuclear missile strikes, system which would comprise earth and space-based elements." Ptashnikov mentions that Gorbachev announced a unilateral one-year moratorium on nuclear tests; but Washington refuses to follow suit.

Chernyshev replies: "Yes, our president expressed the hope that thus a path would be opened toward the speediest possible and complete ban on nuclear testing. Moreover, he proposed to the United States to reach an agreement on a controlled halt to the production of all fissionable weapon-grade materials. In his view, it would facilitate the attainment of a goal he proclaimed in 1986: to rid mankind of nuclear weapons.

"Is there a hope that Washington will alter its position and accept the Soviet proposal? Not in its entirety, I think. The U.S. leadership does not see in the foreseeable future an opportunity to totally renounce nuclear weapons—more than that, it plans to improve it and test explosions are needed for that. Evidently, however, it cannot be ruled out that the United States can, in the

new conditions review their negative attitude to introducing tougher curbs on nuclear tests. I thus think that it is possible to continue talks to lower the permissible limits for the yield of explosions and their annual number."

The remainder of the program is devoted to Yugoslavia. Dr. of Historical Sciences (Yelena Yuriyevna Guchkova), just back from there, says Soviet coverage of the events is based on stereotypes and inappropriate comparisons with the USSR. She gives her own version. The media are one-sided about the role of the Yugoslav People's Army, seeing it as the aggressor. It doesn't see itself as Serbian and has been neutral. Ptashnikov says this is only a small part of the story. (Guchkova) says Bolshevism is not always succeeded by democracy. When a multi-ethnic state breaks up, territorial problems are inevitable. Ptashnikov concludes that he thinks (Guchkova's) view is largely subjective, but the situation and its assessments contain many contradictions.

Officer Warns Against Arms Cuts 'Euphoria'

PM1110105691 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 11 Oct 91 p 3

[Colonel D. Belskiy article: "The Disarmament Race: On Moscow's and Washington's New Initiatives"]

[Text] There is currently no shortage of euphoric assessments of the U.S. and Soviet initiatives in the nuclear disarmament sphere. It is also claimed—though with some reservations—that we are living in a totally new period in world politics, that real disarmament is embarking on a "sprint race," and that there is hope that the process of reducing strategic nuclear arsenals to a minimum will proceed with new speed, especially since Russia has also put forward its own initiative, which envisages an even deeper reduction in nuclear arsenals.

There are, of course, grounds for optimism. Following the conclusion of the Treaty on Strategic Offensive Arms [START], the technical problems concerning strategic offensive arms reductions seem to have been more or less resolved. As for tactical weapons, here much work evidently lies ahead, despite the existence of the will to eliminate them.

It is symptomatic that Soviet-U.S. consultations on nuclear disarmament questions have begun at precisely this time. There is, therefore, reason to speak of a joint Soviet-U.S. initiative. It is to be hoped that specialists will not become bogged down in technical problems, as has happened before, and that all the contentious issues will be dealt with on the basis of a desire to resolve them.

The USSR president's proposals are very solid and contain no surprises. Reducing nuclear arsenals is a basic priority in the Soviet Union's policy, as was declared back in January 1986. Developing this idea, the proposal on the "third nuclear zero"—the total elimination of tactical nuclear weapons in Europe—was put forward. This was the USSR's official position.

President G. Bush's initiative is the first step in this direction. It is noteworthy that last year's compilation "Soviet Military Might: 1990" identified the USSR's goal as being to rule out the presence of U.S. tactical nuclear systems in Europe. The USSR has also taken unilateral steps in this direction on its own account, and began to withdraw nuclear weapons from Eastern Europe even before the disbandment of the Warsaw Pact. Even earlier, submarines carrying nuclear missiles had been withdrawn from the Baltic Sea.

But it must be admitted that the fact that the USSR was superarmed with tanks and tactical nuclear weapons made it impossible for the United States and its allies to trust it. Moreover, at that time the Soviet Army also had SS-20 medium-range missiles in its armory, and the Americans had Pershing-2's, which destabilized the situation in Europe to the utmost.

You only have to look back at recent history to understand why the American leadership has taken the initiative in the disarmament sphere, without having yet abandoned the concept of "nuclear deterrence."

First and foremost, concepts involving the use of tactical nuclear weapons, as well as corresponding military development programs, were formulated in NATO as a reaction to Soviet superiority in the conventional arms sphere. Military men and politicians were hypnotized by the idea of the hypothetical tank offensive that would roll all the way to the Atlantic coast. Only recently, in 1989, during the debate in NATO on the need to modernize tactical nuclear weapons, J. Baker and M. Thatcher insistently explained to their allied opponents that the bloc needs these weapons as long as Warsaw Pact superiority in conventional arms—and therefore the threat of a successful advance by troops in Europe—persists.

The initial premise on Soviet superiority, called into question by the opponents of modernization, prevailed. At that time people were still unable to believe in the sincerity of the Soviet defensive doctrine, proclaimed in 1986. However, the course of events confirmed the fact that the times are changing, and we are changing with them. In 1991 the possibility of a war in Europe is not realistic, and the conceptual basis for siting tactical nuclear weapons in Europe is substantially undermined. An understanding has arrived that mastery of the "military atom" is not the only measure of might.

In the military-strategic concepts and simulation models of both NATO and the now defunct Warsaw Pact, tactical weapons were almost always present in scenarios of the escalation of military conflict in Europe. Thus the concepts of "flexible response," "nuclear threshold," "limited nuclear war in Europe," and so forth, arose. Naturally, these concepts found concrete expression in programs for developing the armed forces. Each side, at a certain level of "conflict," when the point at which they

recognized their own lack of superiority was reached, sought to shift the conflict to a new, "more advantageous" level.

The U.S. President has put forward his initiative at a propitious moment, when the threat of global nuclear confrontation has begun to decline. It appears that the American side has taken on itself the initiative of bringing the USSR Armed Forces closer to the level of "reasonable sufficiency" which forms the basis of Soviet military doctrine. Hitherto the approach toward that level has proceeded through necessity, under the pressure of changes affecting the USSR's security, such as the unification of Germany, the disintegration of the Warsaw Pact, and the consequent withdrawal of troops from Eastern Europe.

The range of Soviet initiatives is indeed broad. It includes tactical nuclear weapons, strategic offensive nuclear arms, and a one-year unilateral moratorium on nuclear tests. The commitments taken on by the Soviet side also extend to naval arms, which were formerly not part of the disarmament process.

It is noteworthy that the USSR and the United States are removing all tactical nuclear weapons from surface ships and multipurpose submarines. As is well known, this was one of the points on which the USSR and the United States had hitherto been unable to reach agreement. The initiative was put forward by the United States, but resolving the problem of naval arms, including nuclear arms, is of very great significance for the USSR's security. The emphasis that the United States places on naval forces is well known.

Disagreements still persist as regards tactical nuclear weapons in front-line (tactical) aviation combat units. And in Europe the United States is proposing to keep an "effective nuclear aviation potential."

In this situation, can one speak of a concession to the West, a loss of superpower status? Indeed, with the elimination of tactical nuclear systems, especially in Europe, the benefits for the United States are undoubted: The USSR is destroying incomparably more of them. Furthermore the initiatives regarding cuts in strategic and tactical arms do not affect the French and British nuclear components.

The NATO bloc has always been exceptionally sensitive to encroachments on the nuclear component of its armed forces. As for its tactical component, here the West has invariably opposed reductions, despite the USSR's quantitative superiority in this category of weapons.

The security benefits of implementing the initiatives are undoubted. The range of tactical weapons and, most important, the large number of them in Europe make the continent very vulnerable, since tactical nuclear weapons here acquire a strategic role. The elimination of land-based tactical nuclear weapons is in accordance with the requirements of the new European security structures: the disintegration of the Warsaw Pact and the pressing demand for a change in NATO's strategic concepts.

The new process has been called the disarmament race. Moscow and Washington, it is believed, have a "medicine" capable of curing the diseases of their state budgets and converting a significant section of military industry. The burden that they bear as nuclear powers will thus be lightened.

The danger associated with the very existence of nuclear arsenals is also lessened. Substantial reductions in arsenals in strategic weapons coupled with limitations on the development of mobile missiles strengthen strategic stability.

Great significance is also attached to the unilateral one-year moratorium on nuclear tests. But its significance will only become really clear if in the course of the current year talks on a ban on nuclear tests on a worldwide scale make progress.

Back to that euphoria.

It is true that Europe could become a "nuclear-free zone." But many questions arise. First and foremost, about the time scale for nuclear disarmament. This has not yet been agreed. The process of reduction is also unclear—as regards the quantities in which tactical nuclear weapons will be either totally eliminated or returned to storage depots. The Bush initiative envisages both, but does not say in what proportions these processes will take place.

But how far is it possible for the country to carry out such deep cuts? The process now under way in the disarmament sphere is already being called a race by some people. And any race can have various consequences. Undoubtedly the economic crisis, excessive strain in the sphere of finance, and general political instability are obstacles on the path to resolute steps in this sphere. And specialists predict substantial expenditure on disarmament before any material benefits can be expected to appear. Without a doubt, in time the renunciation of the arms race, especially the nuclear arms race, will justify itself. But for the moment it is necessary to seek the right ways of converting the industry that used to produce nuclear munitions. It may also be possible to find the right solutions as regards salvaging them and making use of them in various sectors of the economy. But for the time being the question is: How long will the nuclear munitions remain in the depots? Presumably that will also cost a lot.

The "residual phenomena" in the strategic thinking of the former "adversaries" are also worrying. According to the declared "new defense strategy," the security of the United States and the entire planet will be based on limited "nuclear deterrent" forces. Thus the initiative leaves unchanged the plans for deploying a new generation of air-based tactical nuclear missiles.

The mutual renunciation of tactical nuclear weapons in Europe, the reduction of strategic missiles, the ending of nuclear tests, the joint development of systems against the nuclear danger—such actions, it may be hoped, will strengthen European and global security.

Defense Doctrine Outlined at CSCE Forum

PM1110150491 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 11 Oct 91 First Edition p 3

[V. Nazarenko report: "Military Doctrine of the Renewed Union: Vienna Seminar Continues Work"]

[Text] Vienna, 10 Oct—The scene is Vienna's Hofburg Palace. This is the venue of the second seminar on military doctrines (the first was held at the beginning of 1990). It is being held within the framework of the talks on confidence- and security-building measures. Delegations from the 38 CSCE countries are taking part in its work. The delegations are headed by chiefs of general staffs, general inspectors, or top military leaders of equivalent rank. The forum will be working until 18 October. Its purpose is to "provide an opportunity for a discussion of military doctrines in conjunction with the building, structure, and activity of conventional forces in the zone, particularly in the light of the current and future restructuring of forces and other events in Europe and their consequences for the member states' military doctrines."

The first three days consisted of a presentation and discussion of the military doctrines and strategic concepts of the member states "against a background of their security policy in accordance with the seminar's aim." Next there will be a discussion of questions of the building and structure of the Armed Forces including their organization, means of deployment, backup systems, degree of readiness, arms procurement plans, and so forth. The remaining time will be devoted to an examination of military activity and the military training of personnel.

The main provisions of the renewed Union's future coalition military doctrine were set out by Colonel General Omelichev, first deputy chief of the USSR Armed Forces General Staff. He noted that our renewed Union's doctrine must be a single coalition doctrine based on a synthesis of the principled provisions of the national security concepts of all the sovereign republics which join the renewed Union.

The new coalition doctrine is a component of the concept of national security. It must be a system of officially adopted and scientifically validated views of war and its prevention, military building, and the preparation of the sovereign republics, the country as a whole, and the single Armed Forces to repulse possible aggression, as well as the means of waging the armed struggle in these conditions. Our new doctrine will be implemented via its structurally interlinked political and military-technical aspects.

The main guideline of the political aspect will be the peace-loving course of the Union. In this respect warfare, as a means of resolving disputes between states and contradictions of an economic, political, and ideological, or any other character, is unreservedly rejected. The military-technical aspect includes questions of defense building and the technical equipment of the Armed Forces in the new economic conditions, the choice of the forms and methods of repulsing possible aggression, and the training of troops. It brings to light the problem of the character of the military threat and determines what kind of aggression the sovereign republics and the Armed Forces of the renewed Union are trained to repulse.

We proceed today, Col. Gen. B. Omelichev said, from the basis that the threat of world nuclear and conventional wars and broad military conflicts in Europe is unlikely and has practically been reduced to a minimum. However, it would be premature to speak of the complete elimination of the military danger to the Union. The threat of localized conflicts based on territorial, interethnic, religious, and other contradictions has risen noticeably. And any localized conflict could develop into a conventional war.

The likelihood of the occurrence of crisis situations can be reduced by the phased reduction of the world community's armed forces, a consolidation of military might under UN auspices with a simultaneous reduction of all sides' armed forces to the lowest possible level, and the enhancement of the role of the Center for the Prevention of Armed Conflicts in Europe.

The reduction of troops and arms has a significant effect on the character of military relations between the states of Europe. In this context, the Soviet delegation head stressed in his speech, the implementation of new counterinitiatives by the USSR and the United States will serve the process of the further stabilization of the situation on the continent and throughout the world.

In conditions of the changed military-political situation the Union's security must be ensured in two main areas: first—the nuclear deterrent, which will be ensured by the reorganized strategic nuclear forces; and second, the maintenance of conventional armed forces at such a strength and in such a condition as would guarantee the prevention of regional conflicts and, in the event of aggression, a secure rebuff and the prevention of escalation.

The account of the main areas of the reform of the Armed Forces caught the seminar participants' special attention. This includes the transformation of the structure and leadership of the Armed Forces and the reorganization of the Defense Ministry, the General Staff, and the main and central directorates. The military-administrative division of the country will be clarified. The organizational staff structure of large strategic formations and combined and other units will change, as will the organizational strategic grouping of troops and

the system of armed forces recruitment. It will be necessary to clarify military-technical policy and accelerate the solution of servicemen's social problems. The depoliticization and departyization of the Armed Forces have already been carried out.

The leadership of the single Armed Forces will have to be implemented in two vertical areas: first, the administrative (military-political), including the unified Union Defense Ministry; second, the operational (military), which will embrace the sphere of operational-strategic planning and the combat use of the Armed Forces and their management in military operations as well as the leadership of the strategic deployment of troops.

The Armed Forces will consist of four branches: the Strategic Deterrence Forces, the Air Force, the Navy, and the Ground Defense Forces. In branches of the Armed Forces it is planned to switch from an army structure to a corps structure and from a division structure to a brigade structure, which will make it possible to streamline the management tiers and optimize the complement of those formations. The military-administrative division of the Union's territory will be based on the principles of the "republic—military district" and "troops on the territory of the republics" (for the Transcaucasus and Central Asia).

Without doubt the strategic nuclear forces will remain a single entity with a strictly centralized system of combat management which fully precludes unsanctioned use.

Col. Gen. B. Omelichev reported that we will continue the course of reducing arms production and cutting back the military budget. For example, in 1991, compared with 1988, we reduced deliveries of strategic missiles by 40 percent, medium tanks by 66 percent, infantry combat vehicles by 80 percent, field guns by 60 percent, and warplanes by 50 percent. Appropriations for the purchase of arms and hardware fell by almost 25 percent in 1991.

Great restraint is now being shown in the Armed Forces' everyday activity: The number and intensity of events connected with major exercises and maneuvers have been scaled down. In the initial stages of implementing the requirements of the military doctrine adopted in 1987, priority was given to defense. However, aggression can scarcely be successfully repulsed by means of passive actions. The experience of the Persian Gulf war confirmed that it is necessary to make broad use of the maneuverability of all branches of the Armed Forces for the purpose of routing invading enemy groupings and ending aggression.

Such, in general outline, are the main directions of the present military doctrine of the renewed Union and ways of implementing it. The account aroused great interest among seminar participants.

U.S. Military Inspectors Visit Severodvinsk

PM1510161191 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 12 Oct 91 First Edition p 3

[TASS report: "U.S. Inspectors in Severodvinsk"]

[Text] For the first time, a team of U.S. military inspectors is working in the city of Severodvinsk, the largest defense industry center in the Soviet North, Arkhangelsk Oblast newspaper PRAVDA SEVERA [Truth of the North] reports today. It is headed by Rear Admiral John Williams, who in 1980-1981 was naval attache at the U.S. Embassy in Moscow. The team consists of 15 specialists.

Worldwide Issues

Ministry Official Welcomes NATO Statement

LD1110213391 Moscow TASS in English 2122 GMT 11 Oct 91

[By TASS correspondent Andrey Naryshkin]

[Text] Moscow October 11 TASS—A Soviet Defense Ministry official welcomed NATO chief Manfred Woerner's statement on changing tasks of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization in the new international situation.

Woerner had said in an interview with the ABC television that NATO's main role under present conditions should be to help stabilize the European security structures, including the Soviet Union.

"Our alliance," Woerner was quoted as saying, must interact in order to strengthen relations between the United States and European countries, as well as become a kind of insurance company for stronger peace.

It is gladdening that NATO is ready to bring its strategic aims and tasks into line with changes in the world, the Soviet Defense Ministry's Information Service chief Lieutenant-General Valeriy Manilov said. We are happy to welcome the move. It has turned out that there is only one step from military confrontation to rapprochement, but it was difficult to muster courage to make that step. The Soviet Union has repeatedly expressed its readiness to go its part of the way. Moreover it is already traveling along this way.

As regards turning NATO into an insurance company, we would not mind having an insurance policy issued by it, if the interests of all sides are taken into account.

The Defense Ministry official expressed hope that the insurance company proposed by Woerner would evolve with time into a non-bloc collective security system based on unconditional priority assigned to political means of settling disputes.

Manilov agreed with Woerner's idea that the Soviet Union can and must have close relations with the North Atlantic Alliance.

Zagladin Cited on Objectives of NATO Visit

PM1510101191 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 11 Oct 91 p 4

[Correspondent V. Peresada report: "Discussion at NATO: Ties With North Atlantic Alliance Expanding"]

[Text] Brussels, 10 Oct—At the NATO leadership's invitation a delegation from the Soviet Committee for European Security and Cooperation headed by its chairman, V. Zagladin, the USSR president's adviser, has arrived in Brussels. The purpose of the trip is acquaintance with the main areas of the North Atlantic alliance's activity and a search for ways to establish mutual cooperation.

This is unusual even in the situation now when permanent official contacts already exist between our side and NATO. This time the issue concerns something more important—the transition to direct, multifaceted relations with that organization both at state and republic level. The delegation comprises members of the USSR and Russian Supreme Soviets, well-known political and social figures, military men, scientists, economists, and representatives of the USSR and Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic foreign ministries.

During the trip special information briefings will be organized for the Soviet guests at alliance headquarters and at SACEUR headquarters. In addition, there will be meetings, conversations, and roundtable discussions because, as I was told at the NATO press service, there is great interest here in a USSR which is renewing itself and especially in the prospects for the creation of a political and economic union of sovereign states.

What is the practical basis for the expansion of ties with NATO? And in what spheres? I asked the Soviet delegation head to answer those questions.

"Recently, particularly in the last year, changes have occurred in the Europe and Atlantic region such that many things have switched polarity," V. Zagladin said. "Whereas recently we signed a declaration with NATO as an adversary, now that organization is being transformed into a partner. A whole area of interests has objectively formed and to a large extent they coincide. Take, for example, the instability of the situation in the USSR and Yugoslavia and the problems of regional conflicts around Europe—all this worries both us and NATO. On the other hand, as the U.S. President's disarmament initiatives and the USSR President's counterproposals have shown again, we can go forward with the North Atlantic alliance even further in military rapprochement and the strengthening of security on the continent.

"Bearing all this in mind, we have come here as partners. And for a discussion of the broadest range of cooperation prospects. The time has gone when we viewed NATO merely as a military alliance, 'forgetting' that the most vigorous activity is going on there in the political, economic, scientific, and other nonmilitary spheres as well."

Presidential Spokesman Grachev Gives Briefing

Comments on Gorbachev SFRY Role

LD1510153491 Moscow TASS in English 1518 GMT 15 Oct 91

[By diplomatic correspondents Igor Peskov and Sergey Postanogov]

[Text] Moscow October 15 TASS—Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev's meetings with the leaders of Serbia and Croatia can contribute to lessening tension in Yugoslavia and help the search for ways to achieve a democratic and non-violent settlement there, Soviet presidential spokesman Andrey Grachev told a briefing here today.

After speaking highly of the European Community's role in the search for a political settlement in Yugoslavia, he said that "the Soviet factor in this process has not been activated in full."

The Soviet Union has close historical and spiritual ties with Yugoslavia and the Soviet authority is a political factor that can influence the situation and play an extra positive role in settling the conflict in Yugoslavia, Grachev said.

Gorbachev-Nakayama Talks 'Intensive'

LD1510163791 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1538 GMT 15 Oct 91

[By TASS diplomatic correspondents Igor Peskov and Sergey Postanogov]

[Text] Moscow, 15 Oct (TASS)—The conversation between USSR President Mikhail Gorbachev and Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama was "very rich in content and intensive. It was held in an amicable and constructive atmosphere," Andrey Grachev, head of the USSR president's press service, reported today at a briefing.

Taro Nakayama, he continued, delivered a message from Japanese Prime Minister Kaifu in which the latter expressed his conviction and hope that in the present situation additional favorable possibilities for normalizing Soviet-Japanese relations would take shape.

Touching on the issue of Japan's economic aid to the Soviet Union, Andrey Grachev said that aid amounting to $2.5 billion "is taking the form of credits and is the Japanese contribution to a global package of aid to the Soviet Union from the leading countries of the West."

"There is no link between the decision to grant aid and progress on the issue of territorial demarcation," he said.

Andrey Grachev noted that agreement and understanding have now emerged on the fact that the process of moving toward the conclusion of a peace treaty between the two countries based on principles of reciprocity may be accelerated. During the meeting, Andrey Grachev said, President Gorbachev drew Taro Nakayama's attention to the fact that the rates at which a rapprochement and improvement are occurring in Soviet-Japanese relations of late have acquired a speed that it would have been difficult to reckon on six months ago.

Remarks on Middle East Situation

LD1510174291 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1543 GMT 15 Oct 91

[By TASS diplomatic correspondents Igor Peskov and Sergey Postanogov]

[Text] Moscow, 15 Oct (TASS)—The Soviet Union believes that holding a peace conference on a peaceful Middle East settlement before the end of this month is "a feasible goal," Andrey Grachev, USSR president's aide and head of the USSR president's press service, told a briefing today.

Although a number of unresolved problems and mutual claims remain in the path toward convening this forum, he noted, we hope that they can be removed during U.S. Secretary of State James Baker's mission, who is currently in that region, and during USSR Foreign Minister Boris Pankin's Middle East trip, which starts in the next few days.

Proceeding from the fact that this conference is being convened at the initiative of the USSR and the United States, Andrey Grachev noted, "one can expect that the presidents of the two countries will attend its opening."

The head of the USSR president's press service also noted the fact that, in preparing for the conference, problems in mutual relations between the USSR and Israel would be solved. "As soon as it becomes clear that a peace conference will take place," he stressed, "one can expect that diplomatic relations between the two countries will be restored."

Announces Economic Treaty Signing

LD1510164191 Moscow TASS in English 1556 GMT 15 Oct 91

[By TASS diplomatic correspondents Igor Pekov and Sergey Postanogov]

[Text] Moscow October 15 TASS—The official ceremony of signing the economic union treaty will be held on October 18 in the Moscow Kremlin's St. George's Hall, Soviet Presidential Spokesman Andrey Grachev told a briefing here today.

Mikhail Gorbachev informed the leaders of the sovereign republics, who had agreed on October 11 to sign the treaty, about the ceremony on Monday [14 October]. According to him, the pledge to sign the economic union treaty was made by the heads of state and government of Azerbaijan, Armenia, Belorussia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, the Russian Federation, Tadzhikistan, Turmenia, Uzbekistan and the Ukraine.

Azerbaijan, Armenian Leaders Meeting Set

LD1510214191 Moscow TASS in English 2130 GMT 15 Oct 91

[By TASS diplomatic correspondents Igor Peskov and Sergey Postanogov]

[Text] Moscow October 15 TASS—President Mikhail Gorbachev is planning to meet the Armenian and Azerbaijani leadership on Friday [18 October] to discuss relations between the two republics, including the situation in Nagorno-Karabakh, Soviet Presidential spokesman Andrey Grachev said today.

Grachev said the Soviet president will not mediate in settling the situation in Georgia. Grachev noted that there is an essential difference between the conflict around Nagorno-Karabakh, in which two republics are involved, and the president's mediating efforts are natural, and the conflict in Georgia, which is a domestic conflict.

The president is worried with the situation in Georgia, but "proceeding from understanding that this is a domestic conflict, the sides should search for constitutional ways out of it themselves, observing laws and human rights", Grachev said.

7 Nov To Remain State Holiday

LD1510214791 Moscow TASS in English 2135 GMT 15 Oct 91

[By TASS diplomatic correspondents Igor Peskov and Sergey Postanogov]

[Text] Moscow October 15 TASS—November 7, the anniversary of the 1917 October Revolution in Russia, still remains a state holiday, Soviet presidential spokesman Andrey Grachev told a briefing here today.

"Until legislative bodies pass some other decision, it will remain a holiday," Grachev said. "Republican, regional and other bodies have no authority to cancel it. They can only take decisions about forms of marking it."

Attitude to this day split Soviet society. Debates continue about whether or not November 7 should still be considered the country's main state holiday. Moscow authorities have appealed to the Russian leadership, asking it to make November 7 and 8 working days, saying it is "necessary to prepare for winter".

Delegation Attends IMF Conference in Thailand

Yavlinskiy Heads Delegation

LD1110155591 Moscow TASS in English 1456 GMT 11 Oct 91

[By TASS diplomatic correspondent Leonid Timofeyev]

[Text] Moscow October 11 TASS—A Soviet delegation headed by Grigoriy Yavlinskiy, deputy head of the Soviet interim government, leaves today for Bangkok to attend the annual conference of the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank of Reconstruction and Development to open on October 14.

The delegation includes Ernest Obminskiy, deputy Soviet foreign minister, experts from the Soviet State Bank and the Soviet Foreign Economic Bank, and representatives of Russia, Belorussia and Kyrghyzstan, Vladimir Grigoryev, head of the Foreign Economic Relations Department of the Soviet Foreign Ministry, told TASS.

This is the first conference to be attended by the Soviet Union after it was granted special associate membership of International Monetary Fund.

Grigoryev said an agreement on cooperation between the Soviet Union and the World Bank will be ready for signing by Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev and the bank leadership this November. The Soviet delegation will also discuss prospects for granting the Soviet Union full membership in the International Monetary Fund.

Baltic Representatives Attend

LD1510183991 Moscow TASS in English 1514 GMT 15 Oct 91

[By TASS correspondent Viktor Zatsepin]

[Text] Bangkok October 15 TASS—The annual session of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank opened in the Thai capital today. The three-day session will discuss the world economy, aid to developing countries and ecological problems.

The session is being attended by a record 16,000 delegates from 156 countries. A delegation from the Soviet Union, led by Grigory Yavlinsky, is taking part in the session for the first time. The Soviet Union is the only associate member of the International Monetary Fund.

In his opening address IMF Managing Director Michel Camdessus expressed hope that the Soviet Union would soon become a fully- fledged member of the organisation.

Representatives of Latvia, Estonia and Lithuania are also attending the session for the first time. Earlier, the three countries and the Ukraine addressed applications for membership in the IMF and the World Bank to the IMF leadership.

Another new member at the current session of these international financial organisations is Albania.

Speakers at the session focused on assistance to developing countries, expressing hope that with the relaxation of international tension it would be possible to cut military spending and direct the money to meet development needs.

The reduction by the industrialised countries of their military spending by 20 per cent could release 90 billion dollars, Michel Camdessus said.

The World Bank President Lewis Preston rejected criticism on the part of some developing countries which believe that recommendations for cuts in military spending are beyond the competence of the international financial organisations.

He stressed that many countries spent more on their defences than on education and health services put together.

Ministers Agree To Provide Aid

LD1410212491 Moscow Central Television First Program Network in Russian 1900 GMT 14 Oct 91

[From the "TV Inform" newscast]

[Text] The finance ministers of the seven leading Western countries agreed to provide economic aid to our country at their meeting in Bangkok, Thailand:

[Begin correspondent S. Goryachev recording] The seven have made their choice, stating their readiness to help the former Union to overcome chaos in the economy. However, the aid will be provided only if there are cardinal reforms and preservation of a unified center; that is how one could interpret the four conditions put forward by the West. The conditions are listed in the communique on the Bangkok conference results. They include: starting to implement comprehensive reforms, the centre and the republics fulfilling all financial obligations, and completely disclosing Soviet figures on the economy and finances. Observers share the view of U.S. representatives, who spoke in favor of preserving a unified central bank and a common currency in the Soviet Union. The Japanese finance minister said that common representatives should continue to speak for the USSR at later talks. For their part, the seven adopted a decision to send a delegation of their own to Moscow right away. The West evidently finds a final disintegration of the Soviet Union undesirable. Political and economic separatism not only would make it more difficult to provide help but also would cast doubt on the payment of foreign debts, about deferment of which nothing was said in Bangkok. [end recording]

Yavlinskiy Interviewed on Aid

OW1510120991 Tokyo KYODO in English 1148 GMT 15 Oct 91

[By Mitsuru Mabuchi]

[Text] Bangkok, Oct. 15 KYODO—A top Soviet economic strategist said on Tuesday [15 October] that Group of Seven (G-7) representatives will meet with Soviet officials to discuss the details of the G-7's reported financial assistance, including new loans and debt payment deferment.

Grigory Yavlinskiy said in an interview with KYODO News Service, "the secret would be discussed in Moscow in near term," referring to a news report about a secret G-7 agreement on financial aid.

"We are going to have substantial talks in Moscow in order to discuss all the details of this," Yavlinskiy said.

The FINANCIAL TIMES reported in its Tuesday edition that the G-7 has agreed to a secret contingency plan, under which financial help would be provided if the Soviet Union faces default on its 70 billion dollar foreign debt.

Yavlinskiy also said there are talks going on with the G-7 nations about loans from the Basel-based Bank for International Settlements (BIS), bridge loan, and deferment of debt payments.

The FINANCIAL TIMES' report suggested that the West's financial assistance to the Soviets could take the form of a loan from the BIS with Soviet gold as collateral and a temporary deferral of repayments on Soviet loans.

"There are different scenarios about how to solve the problem," including these ideas, he said.

But he added it has not been decided yet as to what scenario should be adopted.

Yavlinskiy, who is leading the Soviet delegation to the annual meeting of the International Monetary Fund and World Bank, also suggested an important decision could be made in Moscow.

"I suppose a decision will be made in Moscow, but it depends on the fruitfulness of this discussion," he said.

The G-7 ministers have decided to send their deputies to Moscow, probably by the end of October, to continue negotiations on possible assistance to the Soviets.

The FINANCIAL TIMES report led to a series of denials and claims of ignorance from G-7 officials.

Bank of Japan Governor Yasushi Mieno said he had heard nothing about such a scheme.

Asked about the report, which said the G-7 communique did not include the aid agreement due to Germany's objections, German Finance Minister Theo Waigel said through a spokesman that he was not aware the German side had struck a contingency financing plan from the document.

British Chancellor of the Exchequer Norman Lamont also claimed no knowledge of a secret agreement. "That's the first I've heard of it," he was quoted as saying.

Yavlinskiy, in Tuesday's interview with KYODO, also said the Soviet Union and G-7 are discussing both short- and long-term debt payment problems.

"We are talking about strategic problems and about current problems as well," he said.

U.S. Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady said in an interview with CNN, a U.S. Cable News Network, that the Soviet Union might receive some form of financial assistance from the IMF within 10 days.

Yavlinskiy, who is responsible for forging economic reform plans, submitted a report to the G-7 countries in their weekend meeting that shows the Soviet Union only has enough foreign reserves to keep up with debt payments for two months, according to the FINANCIAL TIMES.

There is a simmering concern among western industrial countries that the Soviet Union could fail to come up with about 10 billion dollars it is expected to need to pay its way through to the year- end, thereby shutting off most of the sources of western money.

The G-7 failed to include in the communique on the Soviet aid issue any concrete proposal for debt relief, but called on Moscow to meet four conditions for any assistance.

But Finance Minister Ryutaro Hashimoto at a press conference said the G-7 countries have at least agreed that they should not allow the Soviet Union to go bankrupt.

Yavlinskiy Remarks at Press Meeting

OW1610114491 Tokyo KYODO in English 1125 GMT 16 Oct 91

[By Mitsuru Mabuchi]

[Text] Bangkok, Oct. 16 KYODO—The principal architect of Soviet economic reform programs said Wednesday [16 October] he expects the world's leading industrial nations to bail his country out of any future credit crisis.

Grigoriy Yavlinskiy, who is leading the Soviet delegation to the Bangkok meeting of top bankers and financial officials, said at a press meeting, "the Soviet Union will receive support from the G-7 (Group of Seven) to overcome this problem" if a short-term liquidity problem hits the nation.

But he added, "our analysis...shows there is no dramatic situation."

His remarks centered on how to keep the Soviet Union up to date on its foreign debt payments amid rapidly declining foreign exchange earnings by the central government.

It is considered to be the country's most pressing problem under its newfound economic freedom and was a main theme at the weekend meetings between the Soviet delegation and the G-7 officials.

Although the G-7 nations failed to announce any concrete steps to help the Soviets muddle through the current economic crisis, Yavlinskiy stressed he was "not very much disappointed" as the two sides achieved a "common understanding" of the Soviet economic problems.

"G-7 ministers need some more time for analysis and preparations before making decisions," he said.

The G-7 finance ministers will send their deputies to continue negotiations at a Moscow meeting, expected within two weeks. Yavlinskiy said some decisions will be made there.

At the Moscow meeting Soviet republics will have the opportunity for "direct communication" with G-7 deputies, Yavlinskiy said.

The Soviet economic strategist did not give any time frame for economic reforms to show signs of success but said it should occur by spring 1992, when political tension may peak.

He spoke during the annual meeting of the International Monetary Fund (IMF) and the World Bank.

Obtaining full membership in the two official lending organizations is one of the most important factors in bringing the reforms now under way in his country to fruition, Yavlinskiy said

The Soviet Union has acquired a "special association" with the IMF and is expected to receive a similar status from the World Bank within 10 days, he said.

The future of the economic treaty among the Soviet republics and the establishment of statistics in accordance with the approach adopted by the IMF are the decisive factors of full membership, he said.

The leaders of 12 Soviet republics reached agreement in September on the outlines of a new economic accord to create a Soviet-style common market.

Yavlinskiy admitted there are concerns that the accord could disintegrate amid growing assertiveness within the republics.

"I am not 100 percent confident" that the treaty will be fully implemented, he said.

There have been reports that some republics are moving toward issuing their own currencies despite a provision in the accord that calls for a single currency for the Soviet Union.

Yavlinskiy reiterated that his nation has 240 tons of gold reserves, dismissing speculation that he deliberately gave a low figure on gold reserves to elicit more aid.

He said the Soviet Union exported more than 700 tons in 1989 and 1990.

Reserves have dropped sharply since 1953 when the Soviets held 2,500 tons, he said.

Yavlinskiy's Role Reported

AU1510130291 Duesseldorf HANDELSBLATT in German 15 Oct 91 p 13

["Soviet Star in Bangkok"]

[Text] Bangkok, 14 October 1991—The star role that was played by Brazil's attractive economics and finance minister, Zelia Cardoso de Mello, at the last annual meeting of the IMF and the World Bank was taken over at this year's international financial meeting in Bangkok by a stocky Soviet economist who gives the impression of being somewhat chaotic: Grigoriy Yavlinskiy, the head of the Soviet delegation and deputy head of Moscow's economic commission.

In cooperation between the central power and the republics, this commission is intended to develop economic and monetary union in the disintegrating Soviet Union. It is expected to create the framework conditions that are the essential condition for effective Western support for the Soviet reform process.

"I am neither an optimist nor a pessimist; all I know is that I am working hard and that I am somewhat tired," Yavlinskiy told HANDELSBLATT. After one-and-a-half days of presentations to the finance ministers and central bank heads, Yavlinskiy draws up an overall positive balance sheet. From the very beginning he wants to make one thing clear: His delegation has not come to Bangkok to be granted external financial aid, he said. It is much more important "first of all to put the Soviet house in order and mobilize Western cooperation at the same time—wherever this is possible and advisable." Experts on the Soviet Union such as Horst Koehler, state secretary in the Finance Ministry in Bonn, and Axel Lebahn, USSR expert of the Deutsche Bank, have understood it, Yavlinskiy said. When one sets out to overcome 70 years of planned economy thinking, one needs the help of experts who were brought up in a market economy environment.

He is of course aware of the extraordinary nature of his appearance in the G-7 meeting (the seven leading industrialized nations) and the interim committee, that is to say the control body of the IMF. Nevertheless, it is almost impossible "to get in a really good mood these days because many extraordinary things are happening

at home." Perhaps the most important result of Bangkok is "that I may very soon be able to get the representatives of the G-7 and the presidents of the republics and their advisers together at a conference table in Moscow. Then I no longer have to act as the person who passes on information from one side to the other. Then the gentlemen will be able to get information personally from the G-7 about the debt issue, the conditions for new credits, or the cornerstones of a market-economy reform program that the West considers to be realistic."

The possible meeting between leading officials of the various republics and a board of experts consisting of the deputy finance ministers and financial state secretaries obviously seems to have encouraged Yavlinskiy, the coordinator of the Harvard plan, who is wearing himself out in the controversy between the central power in Moscow and the republics.

Volskiy Comments on Aid Demands

LD1510203191 Moscow TASS in English 1359 GMT 15 Oct 91

[By TASS analyst Nikolay Zheleznov]

[Text] Moscow October 15 TASS—"We are no longer able to escape divulging the state of our country's financial situation, including our gold reserve, to experts from the International Monetary Fund and the world market," Arkady Volskiy, vice-chairman of the USSR Committee for the Management of the National Economy, said today, commenting on the preconditions set in Bangkok, for granting financial aid to the Soviet Union.

Although the foregoing demand ranks last in the list of the four Bangkok preconditions, it is still the main stumbling block, Soviet economist believe, to the world community's complete trust in us. "The leading world powers," Volskiy noted, "are ready to launch, judging by everything, the largest international project since the days of the 'Marshall Plan'".

The implementation of the first precondition—adoption in the USSR of a comprehensive programme of economic reforms—is as near as a toucher [as received]. If nothing unforeseeable happens, the economic community agreement will be signed already on October 18 by the Russian Federation and six other republics in addition to Kazakhstan, Belorussia and Uzbekistan, which have already attached their signatures to it. After that it will be possible to say that the Soviet economy's switchover from centralised management to a market economy has begun, finally giving the green light to its integration into the world economy.

The two remaining Bangkok preconditions are related to the problem that is most painful for the business world—the centre's and the republic's responsibility for financial commitments. In this case, Volskiy believes, the signing of the above-said agreement will mark the beginning of progress: Russia and the other republics are signing it on condition that it will be shortly supplemented by several economic and political acts, clearly laying down the relationships among all the republics of the former union. One such act, in expert opinion, is most urgent. It is linked with the recognition of the Central Bank's new prerogatives and the formation of its reserve system. This, according to Volskiy, is one of the categoric demands formulated by experts of the World Bank.

Gorbachev Adviser Interviewed on Debt, Support

OW1110034891 Tokyo KYODO in English 0331 GMT 11 Oct 91

[Text] Moscow, Oct. 10 KYODO—An economic adviser to Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev said Thursday that Moscow vitally needs financial support from the Western world, including a rescheduling of external debt repayments.

Anatoliy I. Milyukov, in an interview with KYODO News Service, said that what the Soviet Union needs most now is full-scale financial assistance from the West to rebuild its economy, adding that Moscow wants to have its debt repayments rescheduled and obtain a bridge loan.

Milyukov welcomed Moscow's admission to the International Monetary Fund (IMF) as a special associate member under which it is entitled to receive technical aid from the world body.

He added, however, that financial aid is indispensable for the Soviet Union to ensure transition to a market economy and Moscow hopes to obtain loans from the IMF.

The Soviet Union's external debt has topped 70 billion dollars and is heading for 80 billion dollars, making it extremely hard to repay it because of increasing interest payments, he said.

Most of the foreign exchange earned from exports has to be diverted for interest payments, while nearly 5 billion dollars is needed to import grain.

Milyukov expressed the hope that creditor nations will agree to reschedule the debt repayments and provide new loans to the Soviet Union during negotiations currently under way.

Moscow greatly appreciates Japan's 2.5 billion dollar aid package to help the Soviet Union and it regards the decision as symbolizing improving bilateral relations, he said.

The two countries should promote economic cooperation despite the long-standing territorial dispute between them, he said.

Japan's aid will help improve the government finances and introduce foreign technology for the development of natural resources, Milyukov said.

Referring to a proposal for formation of a Soviet economic union patterned after the European Community, Milyukov said a currency- control mechanism similar to the U.S. Federal Reserve Board is desirable to coordinate fiscal and monetary policies among the Soviet republics.

The federation will collapse if each republic issues its own currency, he warned.

Milyukov said the transition to a market economy will take about five years to complete and the federal government will start privatizing small- and medium-sized enterprises in about two years.

Prospects of Western Aid Pondered

PM1610134191 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Oct 91 Union Edition pp 1, 4

[Correspondent N. Paklin article: "We Are Being Offered Aid in Bangkok. It Should Be Accepted, Provided Conditions for it Are Created"]

[Text] The Western countries are discussing a program of aid to the Soviet Union. It is possible that this will be the largest program since the early 1950's. Main attention is being focused on this program at the annual IMF and World Bank session in Bangkok.

This was stated in the INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC INSIGHTS journal published by the private International Economic Institute in Washington. Foreign correspondents covering the session of the world's two largest international financial institutions received issues of the journal with articles on the Soviet economy at the news center attached to Bangkok's Queen Sirikit National Palace of Congresses, where the session is being held.

How will they help us specifically? The question is not as simple as it might seem at first glance. Experts from the IMF and World Bank have been mulling over this question here in steamy, rain-swept Bangkok for several days, along with the finance ministers from the seven most developed capitalist countries—the United States, Japan, Germany, Britain, France, Italy, and Canada—who are attending the session. They are being helped by highly professional specialists, such as those countries' central bankers, but even they find it difficult to get to the bottom of our affairs. First and foremost, they do not perceive what kind of state formation will emerge in place of the USSR and what relations between the center and the republics in it will be like. That is why the ministers were impatiently awaiting the arrival of our delegation, headed by Grigoriy Yavlinskiy, in Bangkok.

Our delegation will be acting as a petitioner in Bangkok. No, it is not formally asking for anything. "We have come to explain our domestic and foreign problems and our strategy for the future," G. Yavlinskiy said, closely surrounded by our delegation members. "It is well known that the situation in our country is extremely complex. We will be talking about this, and in terms of economic science rather than propaganda. We are counting on being understood. Essentially, our participation in the Bangkok session of the IMF and World Bank is a continuation of the process begun by M. Gorbachev at the meeting with G-7 leaders in London. This process is developing."

Yavlinskiy's report "The Soviet Economy. Overcoming the Legacy of the Totalitarian System" and his speech to a considerable extent satisfied the far from idle curiosity of Western politicians and experts. This was noted by IMF Managing Director M. Camdessus, the French economist. "Our interest has been satisfied. Grigoriy Yavlinskiy talked extremely frankly about all the problems facing the USSR. That is a hopeful sign. A highly promising start has been made in the relationship between the Soviet Union and the two international financial organizations." "The head of the Soviet delegation profoundly analyzed and clearly defined the aims of economic transformation in your country," C. Solchaga, chairman of the IMF Interim Committee, the Fund's leading political organ, said. "I personally and the committee members got the impression that the USSR is seeing a change not only in its economy but in the mood of its people. Your country has embarked irreversibly on the path of transition from a centralized bureaucratic economy to a market economy and integration in the world economy. The transition will be difficult, but I am confident that the costs will ultimately be repaid with interest."

These positive assessments were reflected in the final communique on the results of the meeting between the Soviet delegation and the G-7 finance ministers and central bankers. It notes the importance of the efforts made to create an economic community in the Soviet Union and to restructure financial relations between the center and the republics. "We welcome this development of the situation," the communique states.

The document also notes the firm intention of the G-7 to continue the dialogue on economic and financial problems with our country. To that end, it has been decided to send the deputy finance ministers of the seven most developed capitalist countries to Moscow in the very near future.

Soviet subjects were also reflected in other documents adopted in Bangkok by various international organizations that sometimes had no direct connection with the USSR. "The committee welcomes the Soviet authorities' intention to expedite the creation of a market mechanism and to integrate the Soviet economy into the international trade and financial system," the IMF Interim Committee's final document states. "On the basis of the current situation in the country, the committee also warmly welcomes the signing of the agreement between the USSR and the Fund granting the Soviet Union associate member status of the IMF. It views this as a step forward along the path toward the USSR's acceptance as a full Fund member."

The mutual understanding that is in the making between our country and the international community opens up entirely new approaches to the Soviet Union from the West. G. Yavlinskiy claims—and quite rightly, insofar as can be judged—that our country is not looking for economic aid here at the annual Fund and Bank session in Bangkok. But the question of granting us aid is being discussed, even without our asking, at sessions of the G-7 finance ministers.

Particular attention is being devoted to granting the Soviet Union so-called humanitarian aid. It is primarily a question of food shipments. The finance ministers are discussing in Bangkok the amount of humanitarian aid we should be granted, and who will invest how many dollars in this noble undertaking. The figure is being put at $7.5 billion. Japan has already expressed agreement to offer its share of $2.5 billion. The EC is allocating $2.4 billion. It would like the United States to provide approximately as much. So far the Americans have agreed to $500 million. But the Europeans are still hoping to persuade them. The arguments, it is claimed, have been heated. Meanwhile the Canadians have decided to make their own sizable contribution to the humanitarian aid package for us. Except the finance ministers just cannot figure out who to give the aid to—the central authorities or, perhaps, the republics directly? In principle the West welcomes the decentralization of power in our country but not to the extent that there is nobody to negotiate with at the center. At a news conference, Federal Reserve Chairman A. Greenspan plainly advocated a single monetary unit for our country and a single central bank. "This will ease the transition to a market economy," he stressed.

Former CEMA Members To Form New Group

LD1310101591 Moscow TASS in English 0955 GMT 13 Oct 91

[By TASS correspondent Nikita Marunov]

[Text] Moscow October 13 TASS—The purpose of an East-European Cooperation and Trade (EECT) Organisation, which is now being established, is to help transfer to market relations the economic structures of the member-countries of the former Council for Mutual Economic Assistance (CMEA) [CEMA] and create prerequisites for their integration into the world economic system. An EECT founding conference is to be held on October 18-19.

"The aim is to restore commercial and production relations, which were disrupted after the CMEA breakup, on different, market-determined principles," Aleksandr Mazanov, deputy chairman of the coordinating committee, told TASS.

"Taking into account an acute shortage of freely convertible currency, we have adopted as a basis the U.S. experience in barter and clearing operations. A programme which has been worked out on the strength of the U.S. experience will make it possible to launch large-scale trade exchanges.

"Bulgaria, Poland, the Soviet Union, Czechoslovakia, and Yugoslavia are expected to be represented in the EECT. It is planned to establish a stock exchange with branches in various countries, a bank, and trading firms to tackle common problems such as the convertibility of national currencies and the licensing of reciprocal deliveries.

"Such comprehensive measures can help resolve many economic problems in the former CMEA countries. This would not be possible to do through bilateral barter which can satisfy only individual commodity producers," Mazanov said.

Asked to explain the attention of developed western countries to the emerging organisation, Mazanov said that interest in it has been shown by the business circles of Germany, Greece, Italy, Finland, and even Australia, which attentively follow changes taking place in the former CMEA countries.

"Moreover, in a number of countries, there are commercial structures that are prepared to become co-founders of the EECT. They, in my view, are attracted by the possibility to more actively operate at our capacious market through barter," Mazanov said.

Sovereign states that are emerging on the territory of the Soviet Union may also be drawn into the sphere of the EECT, he added.

United States & Canada

Secretary Madigan Interviewed on Food Aid

924A0060A Moscow SELSKAYA ZHIZN in Russian 10 Oct 91 p 3

[Interview with U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Edward Madigan by SELSKAYA ZHIZN international commentator An. Balebanov, under the rubric "Today in the World"; place and date not given: "E. Madigan: 'The West Can Help the Soviet People Feed Themselves' "]

[Text] A delegation of American specialists, headed by U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Edward Madigan, recently visited the Soviet Union. The delegation included representatives of private companies and government experts on agricultural and food issues. Despite the tightly scheduled program for the secretary's stay in our country, SELSKAYA ZHIZN international commentator managed to interview the American guest, literally "on the run."

[Balebanov] Mr. Madigan, on the eve of your departure for Moscow, U.S. President G. Bush met with your delegation in the White House. How did he define the main tasks of your trip?

[Madigan] The main purpose of our trip was to study the Soviet Union's need for food aid from the United States and other countries in the West. In the course of meetings and conversations with businessmen and officials in your country, we have been trying to find out specifically where in the USSR the food situation will be particularly acute this coming winter, and how American farmers could send help exactly where there is a need for it now.

[Balebanov] Having acquainted yourself with the food situation in the localities, what is your conclusion?

[Madigan] I can say with certainty that such a dramatic thing as a famine is not expected in the Soviet Union. At the same time, I cannot preclude the possibility of acute shortages of one or another type of food in some regions, which, in turn, can cause social discontent.

[Balebanov] According to the American press, this winter the Soviet Union will have to buy abroad, in addition to grain, 1.5 million tons of meat, 5.7 million tons of milk, and 3.7 billion eggs. The value of this emergency aid is estimated to be $10.2 billion. After your trip to the USSR, can you say to what extent these figures reflect reality?

[Madigan] I can only say that we have not come up with any figures.

[Balebanov] Does this mean that the amount of potential humanitarian aid from the United States and other Western countries will be in a considerably smaller amount?

[Madigan] More likely than not.

[Balebanov] When is the decision on providing such aid to the Soviet Union expected, and what amount of aid, in your opinion, are we talking about?

[Madigan] The upcoming meeting of the Group of Seven finance ministers, which will open on 11 October in Bangkok, and, following this, the World Bank and IMF sessions, will center on the issues of Western economic aid to the USSR. I believe that what is needed is the delivery of only enough food to reduce tensions in the food market. We are not talking about feeding the Soviet people. The West should only help the Soviet people feed themselves.

[Balebanov] Before your departure for the USSR, members of your delegation spoke of the desire to help our country in creating an agricultural products market, setting up a system of warehouses and storage facilities, and adopting modern methods of storage and processing of agricultural products. Should we still consider these statements as a serious intent to help our agrarian sector?

[Madigan] We are open to any mutually profitable cooperation. I want to emphasize once again that only you can help yourselves. How? To begin with, it is necessary to remove controls on the prices on agricultural products and repeal various restrictions imposed by republic authorities on the movement of food.

[Balebanov] Upon your return to the United States, you will probably meet with President Bush. What will you try to convince him of?

[Madigan] I will undoubtedly recommend to the President to provide the USSR with immediate food aid and to increase credit guarantees for your country to buy agricultural products. We are not talking, however, about a so-called "blank food check." We have tried to convince the people we spoke with in the Soviet Union, too, that they should not rely on massive imports year after year.

More on Talk With Gorbachev

PM1510101791 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 11 Oct 91 Union Edition p 5

[TASS report: "M. Gorbachev Met With E. Madigan"]

[Text] M.S. Gorbachev met 9 October with U.S. Secretary of Agriculture Edward Madigan, who together with his colleagues has been sent by U.S. President George Bush to study conditions, organize assistance for us in terms of providing foodstuffs and medicines for the coming winter, and draw up a joint program for transforming and modernizing the entire infrastructure of the food industry.

E. Madigan delivered a report on the conclusions that his staffers and experts had reached after familiarizing themselves with farms and enterprises and put forward a number of proposals. He had already discussed some of these with I.S. Silayev, Yu.M. Luzhkov, and other senior figures in Moscow and the republics.

The secretary and his colleagues are sure that even in existing installations, with the available personnel and the equipment currently in place, it is possible to guarantee a minimum level of food supply if effective management is applied. The president supported E. Madigan's offer to dispatch American management specialists to many of our enterprises with immediate effect.

The idea of setting up a model farm in St. Petersburg Oblast, which could become a school for modern and efficient agrarian production, was greeted with interest and encouragement.

On behalf of the U.S. President, the secretary and Ambassador R. Strauss reaffirmed the U.S. Administration's resolve to afford real, effective, and immediate assistance in the sphere of food and medicine, to be guaranteed by appropriate loans within the framework of U.S. laws.

A detailed exchange of opinions took place about the prospects for the development of agricultural business in the light of the country's specific historical features and its enormous potential resources and in conditions of a radical transformation of property relations and extensive land reform.

The interlocutors noted that cooperation in the area proposed by Secretary Madigan is the most important component in the new overall quality of Soviet-U.S. relations and the new character of world politics, which are to a great extent governed by trust and mutual understanding between our two countries and their leaderships.

R. Strauss, R. Crowder, N. Burns, Yu.M. Luzhkov, and Yu.M. Mordvintsev took part in the meeting.

Northeast Asia

Gorbachev on 'Improvement' in Ties With Japan

LD1510222391 Moscow Central Television First Program Network in Russian 1900 GMT 15 Oct 91

[From the "TV Inform" newscast]

[Text] The rate of rapprochement and improvement in Soviet-Japanese relations has lately acquired a speed that even half a year ago could hardly have been expected. This was noted by USSR President Gorbachev at a meeting with Japanese Foreign Minister Nakayama.

One could add that not only has the speed increased, but the tone has changed as well. For the first time, Tokyo made an announcement about providing major assistance to us and did not link this with the territorial issue. A message from the Japanese premier, which Nakayama handed over to Gorbachev, stresses that the present situation has created favorable opportunities for normalizing Soviet-Japanese relations.

Nevertheless, the territorial issue has not been removed from the agenda. The documents signed in Moscow on Monday [14 October], including the ones on the partial demilitarization of the South Kurils, are seen by Japan as a step in the right direction. But much in solving this most complex problem depends on the position of the Russian leadership.

Today Nakayama had a meeting with President Yeltsin of Russia. As is known, he favors seeking ways to settle the territorial issue on the basis of legality and justice.

Gorbachev To Consider Declaration on Islands

OW1510151191 Tokyo KYODO in English 1452 GMT 15 Oct 91

[Text] Moscow, Oct. 15 KYODO—Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev said Tuesday [15 October] that he will take into account the 1956 Japan-Soviet joint declaration in settling the long-standing territorial dispute with Japan over four Soviet-occupied islands off Hokkaido, Japanese officials said.

In the 1956 declaration, the Soviet Union pledged to return two of the four islands after the conclusion of a peace treaty between the two countries.

Gorbachev added, however, that he must also give consideration to "stern realities" concerning the islands and is groping for possible concessions on the issue under those conditions.

The Soviet president made the remarks in one-and-a-half hour meeting with Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama, who is on a weeklong visit to Moscow as the first Japanese cabinet minister to go there following the failed August coup by communist hardliners.

The declaration, issued in Moscow to proclaim the restoration of diplomatic relations between the two countries, was seen as paving the way for the return of Shikotan and the Habomai Islet group to Japan. The two islands, as well as Kunashiri and Etorofu, were seized by the Soviets at the end of World War II.

In a 1960 memorandum, however, Moscow, angered by Japan's renewal of its security treaty with the U.S. amid an escalation of the cold war, cancelled the promise.

Since then, the Soviet Union has maintained that no territorial dispute with Japan exists, while Japan has insisted the return of the four islands en bloc is a precondition to a peace treaty.

With dramatic democratic changes in the Soviet Union advancing, high-ranking officials both in the Kremlin and the Russian Federation, which has jurisdiction over the islands, have softened their stance on the issue and even suggested readiness to hand over the islands to Japan.

In the talks, Nakayama stressed the importance for leaders of the two countries to make political decisions leading to an early solution to the problem.

Nakayama said that Japan and the Soviet Union should establish principles based on the 1956 declaration for possible return of the islands.

The Japanese foreign minister also said that Moscow and Tokyo, taking into account the 1855 Japan-Russia trade treaty which peacefully established the boundary between the two nations, should start serious negotiations on the dispute.

In response, Gorbachev said that Japan and the Soviet Union agreed to accelerate preparations to conclude a peace treaty when he visited Tokyo in April, adding that he stands loyal to the agreement.

Gorbachev praised Japan's recent announcement of a 2.5 billion dollar aid package for the Soviet Union and a bilateral agreement on visa-free travel between Japan and the four islands.

He also gave high marks to a Japanese proposal to promote dialogue on security affairs between the two nations. Nakayama made the proposal when he met with his Soviet counterpart Boris Pankin on Monday [14 October].

Commenting on the possibility of economic exchanges between Japan and the four islands, Gorbachev was quoted as saying they are worth Japan's consideration. Tokyo has maintained a cautious stance on the matter.

Gorbachev added that he proposes such exchanges from the viewpoint of creating a good atmosphere for changing the relationship between the two countries.

Asked by Nakayama whether his remarks on the four islands were based on the 1956 joint declaration, Gorbachev only said that he affirms the contents of the Japan-Soviet joint communique issued during his April trip to Tokyo, the officials said.

The April communique stopped short of making specific reference to the 1956 joint declaration. It says that the two nations will make constructive and vigorous efforts to conclude preparations for a peace treaty, taking advantage of all positive elements that have been built up in bilateral negotiations in the years since Moscow and Tokyo jointly declared the restoration of diplomatic relations in 1956.

After the talks with Gorbachev, Nakayama is to meet with Russian Federation President Boris Yeltsin and Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev.

Nakayama is expected to call on the Russian leaders to strengthen relations between Japan and the largest of the Soviet republics.

Radio Views Pankin-Nakayama Talks

OW1610045991 Moscow Radio Moscow in Japanese 1400 GMT 15 Oct 91

[Text] At his talks with Japanese Foreign Minister Nakayama in Moscow on 14 October, Soviet Foreign Minister Pankin cited the following as elements in the direction or guidelines for future development of Soviet-Japanese relations: negating past stereotypes and promoting mutual understanding, joint action, and partnership.

In yesterday's briefing for journalists on the contents of the meeting, Vitaliy Churkin, director of information of the Foreign Ministry said that both sides discussed the issue of concluding a bilateral peace treaty. In this context, views were exchanged on the so-called Northern Territories issue, i.e. the issue of the four southern Kuril Islands. Foreign Minister Pankin enumerated the various possible approaches to solving the problem and stated that what is important is not to set the final goal at this stage, but to advance along the road to facilitate intensive progress in the contacts between the two sides on this issue. Foreign Minister Pankin presented several proposals on the organizational setup for bilateral contacts to be participated in by representatives of the Russian Republic's Foreign Ministry. With the consent of the Japanese side, the staff for the working group to realize contacts has been appointed. Foreign Minister Pankin also proposed that the views of the so-called extremists be suppressed and that measures be taken to expand the scale and raise the level of Soviet-Japanese relations.

As an extension of the declaration issued by President Gorbachev during his visit to Japan in April, Foreign Minister Pankin also stated that the USSR is willing to undertake a unilateral reduction of its military presence on the southern Kuril Islands by 30 percent. Foreign Minister Pankin further proposed that an anthology of documents related to the history of the territorial issue be compiled under the auspices of the foreign ministers of the USSR, Russia, and Japan.

Information Director Churkin of the Soviet Foreign Ministry also quoted Foreign Minister Pankin as saying that he hoped that the southern Kuril Islands will become a place where the political, economic, and cultural arena for the USSR and Japan will be on an equal footing and where there will be integration in these aspects. Information Director Churkin further said that Foreign Minister Nakayama suggested that a committee of representatives of the Soviet, Russian, and Japanese Governments be formed for the specific purpose of resolving issues in Japan-Soviet economic cooperation.

Japan Ready To Grant Financial Aid

LD1410174391 Moscow TASS in English 1604 GMT 14 Oct 91

[By correspondent Aleksandr Kopnov]

[Text] Tokyo October 14 TASS—"Japan is prepared to assume a considerable part of spendings linked with financial aid to the Soviet Union," prominent leader of the ruling Liberal-Democratic Party Kiichi Miyazawa told a press conference here. Miyazawa is expected to become Japan's new prime minister at the end of October.

Commenting on the results of the Bangkok meeting of finance ministers and heads of central banks from seven industrially advanced countries of the world, Miyazawa welcomed its expressed desire to grant financial aid to the USSR.

"If we start giving financial aid to the USSR in keeping with an agreed plan, and if we are informed about the needed sum," Miyazawa said, "Japan should assume a substantial part of the expected spendings."

Japan Declines Regular Security Talks

LD1510153991 Moscow TASS in English 1352 GMT 15 Oct 91

[By correspondent Vyacheslav Bantin]

[Text] Tokyo October 15 TASS—The Soviet Union and Japan will not hold regular talks on security issues, Yukihiro Ikeda, head of the Japanese Defence Agency, said.

He said both countries have agreed to discuss these issues whenever the need arises.

Commenting on Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama's proposal to begin talks on a bilateral agreement to prevent incidents at sea, Ikeda stressed Tokyo is ready to exchange any relevant information with the Soviet Union.

He said the agreement could also apply to Soviet and Japanese warships and the naval aviation, the Japanese KYODO TSUSHIN news agency said.

ROK-DPRK Leaders' Upcoming Talks Viewed

SK1110073891 Moscow Radio Moscow in Korean 0900 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Station commentator Sergey Petrov commentary]

[Text] The premiers' talks between North and South Korea will take place in late October. ROK President No Tae-u has proposed that the ROK and the DPRK discuss a peace treaty and arms reduction during the talks. We will carry a commentary by station commentator Sergey Petrov.

A new situation has begun to be promoted on the Korean peninsula. As a result, I can say, it has become clearly possible for the two Korean states to coordinate their differences in views. I must say that the proposals by the Soviet Union and the United States to fundamentally reduce nuclear weapons should give good chances to the Korean people. I will explain this.

U.S. President Bush's proposal foresees the withdrawal of the U.S. tactical nuclear weapons from South Korea. As you know, North Korea has so far insisted that only when this condition is fulfilled can progress be made in North-South dialogue.

Pyongyang and Seoul quickly and, significantly, affirmatively responded to the proposals by the Soviet Union and the United States. In view of this, it appears, both the North and South have the clear understanding that they must not miss this opportunity for solving a problem that was considered to be unsolvable just a while ago.

If the United States withdraws its nuclear weapons from South Korea, People's Korea will be able to allow the inspection of its research nuclear reactors by representatives of the International Atomic Energy Agency without jeopardizing its security. As the first step toward a peace treaty, a nonaggression declaration can finally be signed during the upcoming talks between the premiers of North and South Korea.

President No Tae-u expressed his expectation that the fourth premiers' talks in Pyongyang would yield good results. The reports that various plans on economic cooperation between North and South Korea have been mapped out are a basis of such an expectation.

What will result from the North-South Korean premiers' talks will be meaningful for the Japanese-North Korean talks to normalize relations. The upcoming talks will show whether the two Korean states are willing to find realistic solutions. If the North and South form relations of equal partners after ending their hostile relations, confrontation on the Korean peninsula will turn into peaceful co-existence and cooperation without fail.

Near East & South Asia

Belonogov on Israeli Ties, Mideast Conference

OW1510174491 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1650 GMT 15 Oct 91

[Report on "exclusive interview" with Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Aleksandr Belonogov by "diplomatic correspondents" Mikhail Mayorov and Igor Porshnev: "We Are Moving Towards Establishing Diplomatic Relations With Israel, But Will It Happen By the End of This Week?"; place and date not given; from the "Diplomatic Panorama"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] On October 15, a day before the start of a trip by the leader of Soviet diplomacy, Boris Pankin, to the Middle East, the Soviet Deputy Foreign Minister Aleksandr Belonogov told a "DP" [Diplomatic Panorama] correspondent in an interview that "We are moving towards establishing diplomatic relations with Israel. This question has become imminent because of the objective situation of things." Israel is the first stop on Mr. Pankin's schedule. Mr. Belonogov did not decisively say whether or not official relations would start on October 18th in Jerusalem, where Mr. Pankin will be meeting with Israeli leaders and the U.S. Secretary of State James Baker while making the trip to the region. "We won't guess on this, since there is little time between now and October 18th," such was the Deputy Minister's answer.

In discussing objective preconditions for such a step, Mr. Belonogov pointed out that in recent years the total amount of contact between the USSR and Israel had grown significantly. "We cannot overlook the fact that there are more and more people in Israel who hold Soviet passports, and that this naturally increases the ties between the populations of both countries," Mr. Belonogov stated.

The Final Obstacles: Can They Be Overcome?

In Mr. Belonogov's opinion, the goal of Mr. Pankin's imminent visits to Israel, Syria, and Jordan is to remove the final obstacles to holding the regional peace conference scheduled for the end of this month. In connection with this, the meeting in Jerusalem with Baker could play a special role. Mr. Baker is presently working on the same set of problems as the Soviet minister. As co-chairmen of the conference their goal is as before: to start work by the end of the month. With regard to the place for the conference, (about ten European capitals have

offered their services), the Soviet side feels that, "any place is acceptable, as long as most of the other participants agree to it."

Mr. Pankin and Mr. Baker will most likely meet again on the 23rd of October in Paris, where they will participate in an international conference on Cambodia. It is true, Mr. Belonogov remarked, that the results of this trip to the Middle East will decide whether or not the Paris meeting will take place.

Who Will Represent Palestine?

The Soviet Union would be satisfied with any variant of a Palestinian representation, Mr. Belonogov said. There is discussion of an independent Palestinian delegation, and of Palestinian representatives joining a general Arab delegation, if such a thing is being formed, and on the creation of a joint Jordanian- Palestinian delegation. This last variant is, because of the difficulty of the situation, "the only way," according to the deputy minister, and such a possibility is being developed in Moscow and Washington, where talks were recently held with Palestinian leaders. One of the main issues to be resolved during Mr. Pankin's visit to the Middle East will be the decision on a specific Palestinian part of a joint delegation.

How long will the conference last?

Mr. Belonogov believes that the phase of plenary meetings for the expected conference should not last more than two or three days. After this, there will be a two-sided phase, and parallel to this there will be multiple talks. The co-chairmen of the conference want the discussion process to be dynamic and come up with concrete results, the deputy minister says. But the main thing now, as the diplomat has emphasized, "is that all sides are represented at the table."

Whose politics are more active?

Mr. Belonogov foresees that the upcoming period of development will encourage two-way relations between the USSR and all countries in the Middle East. Now there is not one Arab country in the Persian Gulf area, in which the USSR is not represented. In the deputy minister's opinion, this is a serious achievement for Soviet diplomacy in the region, where "we have clearly defined interests."

Mr. Belonogov was not inclined to pass judgement on the activities of the international politics of any country on an entirely quantitative basis (for example, on the number of visits of leaders to one or another region). According to his reasoning, the U.S. presently has to surmount the effects of the exclusively pro- Israel position which the U.S. has held for the past few decades.

The USSR has a slightly different position. "Our politics are known in the Arab world, and we are looked upon with great trust, thus our field of activity at the talks will qualitatively differ from the Americans," the Soviet diplomat stated. "If we do have a problem with this, then it would be foremost with regard to Israel. But now even this will be possible."

Israel Agrees on Direct Flights for Immigrants

PM1610102591 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 15 Oct 91 Union Edition p 4

[Report from REUTER, UPI, AP roundup under general heading "IZVESTIYA Teleprinter Room"]

[Text] According to reports from Jerusalem, the Jewish Agency and the Soviet airline Aeroflot have signed an agreement on flights for immigrants from the USSR. These flights are to begin in the next few months.

A Jewish Agency spokesman said that there will be direct flights for immigrants from Moscow and St. Petersburg. The Israeli state airline El Al is also a party to the agreement. Until recently Jews leaving the Soviet Union had to take flights stopping at a number of eastern European capitals. Over the last two years more than 300,000 Jews have moved from the USSR to Israel. It is intended that this figure should reach 1 million by 1995.

UAE Sends Emergency Assistance to USSR

LD1210181391 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0929 GMT 10 Oct 91

[By TASS correspondent Viktor Lebedev]

[Text] Abu Dhabi, 10 Oct—On 9 October, the United Arab Emirates sent emergency food and medical aid to the USSR. In accordance with an instruction of Shaykh Zayid Bin-Sultan Al Nuhayyan, the country's president, 300 tonnes of foodstuffs and medicines worth $5 million will go to the inhabitants of Moscow and St. Petersburg.

This gift of friendship, says the instruction from the UAE president, has been sent to the Soviet people to "help them overcome the complex economic situation which has developed since the attempted coup d'etat in August, and to facilitate efforts by the USSR president to normalize the situation in the country, develop reform still further, and achieve the goals of perestroyka".

"The UAE follows closely the fundamental transformations being made by Mikhail Gorbachev, and hopes that soon the Soviet Union will overcome its economic difficulties and manage to strengthen internal stability, and that it will continue to play an effective political role in defending international legality and asserting a new world order which guarantees peace, security, and justice for all peoples," Shaykh Khalifah-Bin-Zayid Al Nuhayyan, crown prince of the Emirate of Abu Dhabi and deputy commander in chief of the UAE armed forces, told the TASS correspondent in the capital of the Emirate.

Shaykh Khalifa noted in particular the "firm stance" of the Soviet Union in the struggle to liberate Kuwait from Iraqi occupation on the basis of the UN decisions. He

expressed the hope that "in the stage ahead, the USSR will actively promote the liberation of the Israeli occupied Arab lands, the restoration of the legitimate national rights of the Arab people of Palestine and its self-determination, and the securing of a universal and just peace in the region".

Soviet Envoy Denies Pankin Offer to Mujahidin

PM1510112291 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Oct 91 p 5

[Report by special correspondent Yu. Vladimirov on Kabul news conference by Soviet Ambassador B. Pastukhov—date not stated: "Who's Fooling Whom"]

[Text] Kabul, 14 Oct—A news conference was held here by B. Pastukhov, USSR ambassador extraordinary and plenipotentiary to the Republic of Afghanistan. One of the first questions put to him was this: "The Afghan opposition is demanding Najibollah's departure from the post of president of the republic. How would you comment on the report being publicized by the Western mass media on USSR Foreign Minister B. Pankin's statement in New York, when, at a meeting with a mujahidin delegation, he allegedly proposed that one of the opposition leaders head the 'transitional government'?"

"In recent days certain mass media have been interpreting in their own way B. Pankin's meeting with S. Mojadeddi, leader of the Afghan National Salvation Front," the Soviet ambassador replied. "These reports are contradictory and create the false impression that there was talk of offering the opposition the post of leader of Afghanistan. There could be no question of that, because it is the prerogative of the Afghans themselves to determine their country's future. At the meeting in question the Soviet approach to the settlement of the Afghan conflict on the basis of the Soviet-U.S. statement and the protocol to it was set forth. The question of a transitional government with the participation of representatives of opposing forces and of ex-king Zahir Shah's involvement in the process was discussed."

The report on B. Pankin's statement was transmitted to Afghanistan in early October by the BBC and later by the Voice of America. As for the question of who needed to launch this disinformation at a time when there are signs of an approach to an intra-Afghan dialogue—time will tell.

East Europe

Croatian, Serbian Leaders Arrive for Talks

LD1510130391 Moscow TASS in English 1236 GMT 15 Oct 91

[By diplomatic correspondents Nikolay Veretin and Viktor Runov]

[Text] Moscow October 15 TASS—Leaders of Serbia and Croatia arrived at Sheremetyevo-1 Airport here today. They were invited to Moscow by President Mikhail Gorbachev to jointly seek ways out of the bloody conflict in Yugoslavia.

Croatian President Franjo Tudjman told TASS that he came to Moscow to inform Gorbachev and Yeltsin "about details of the Yugoslavian crisis and the war now being waged against Croatia." He said he hoped "Moscow will help to stop this bloody conflict."

Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic stressed in a TASS interview that he was looking forward to constructive negotiations. "We hope the mediation of Moscow, with which we have always had good relations, will be successful," Milosevic said.

The leaders of Serbia and Croatia will have talks with Mikhail Gorbachev in the Kremlin today.

Milosevic and Tudjman are expected to meet Russian President Boris Yeltsin tomorrow.

Gorbachev, Serbia's Milosevic Meet

LD1510151891 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1440 GMT 15 Oct 91

[By diplomatic correspondent Andrey Pershin]

[Text] Moscow, 15 Oct (TASS)—USSR President Mikhail Gorbachev received Slobodan Milosevic, president of Serbia, in the Kremlin this afternoon. Milosevic is in Moscow at the invitation of the Soviet head of state to seek a way of ending the bloody internecine conflict in Yugoslavia. Franjo Tudjman, the leader of Croatia, flew in to Moscow today with the same aim.

Welcoming his Serbian guest, Mikhail Gorbachev said: "The time has now come to talk, looking each other in the eye." Because we have similar problems, he continued, our conversation should be of interest.

According to expert opinion, meetings and talks between the Serbian and Croatian leaders will be the most effective way of creating a mechanism for reliable dialogue between the two parties to the conflict.

As has become known to this correspondent from informed sources, Franjo Tudjman has given preliminary consent to meet with Slobodan Milosevic for talks. The Serbian leader has said that he will comment on this issue after his conversation with Mikhail Gorbachev.

'Very Frank' Talks Held

LD1510171491 Moscow TASS in English 1652 GMT 15 Oct 91

[By diplomatic correspondent Andrey Pershin]

[Text] Moscow October 15 TASS—Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic described his meeting with Soviet counterpart Mikhail Gorbachev today as "very frank and constructive".

Describing their Kremlin talks, Milosevic told a group of Soviet and Yugoslav reporters: "Our conversation was very frank and constructive and I think that the Soviet president has a very realistic idea of what is going on in Yugoslavia."

He added: "We completely agreed that a peaceful settlement of the Yugoslav crisis, which presupposes that the interests of every people should be equally protected, is the only one right." [as received]

"Each people in our country has the right to exercise self-determination and to have a say in deciding Yugoslavia's future. I hope that the Soviet Union will fully support this approach," Milosevic said.

Gorbachev, who has assumed a mediatory mission to help end the bloody conflict in Yugoslavia, also received Croatian President Franjo Tudjman in the Kremlin tonight.

Talks 'Very Open,' 'Positive'

LD1510173891 Belgrade TANJUG Domestic Service in Serbo-Croatian 1709 GMT 15 Oct 91

[Text] Moscow, 15 Oct (TANJUG)—At a news conference this evening, Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic said that he has reached an agreement with Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev that a peaceful solution to the Yugoslav crisis "is the only humane and fair solution."

Milosevic stated this following two hours of talks with the Soviet president, which the former assessed as "very open and very positive."

Soviet Foreign Minister Boris Pankin and Serbian Foreign Minister Vladislav Jovanovic attended the talks.

Slobodan Milosevic said that "President Gorbachev has a realistic picture of everything that is happening in Yugoslavia." He also stressed that each nation has an equal right to self-determination and to express its will regarding future relations in Yugoslavia. We hope that the Soviet Union will support this, Milosevic said.

It is expected that Milosevic will meet Russian President Boris Yeltsin at about noon tomorrow and that the two sides will sign an agreement on oil supplies.

Gorbachev Remarks on Talks

LD1510192191 Belgrade TANJUG in English 1802 GMT 15 Oct 91

[Text] Moscow, October 15 (TANJUG)—Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev stated on Tuesday night he was concerned over the situation in which the Yugoslav peoples have found themselves.

He told this to a group of Yugoslav newsmen prior to talking to Croatian President Franjo Tudjman stressing he was in this way addressing the Yugoslav public.

Gorbachev met Tudjman immediately after a two-hour talk with Serbian President Slobodan Milosevic.

Soviet Foreign Minister Boris Pankin, on Soviet side, and Croatian Vice Premier Zdravko Tomac, on Croatia side, also took part in the talk.

In a brief statement for the press, Gorbachev urged "with the aid of cooperation and preservation of that which had linked them" a way out of the crisis "in which the fraternal Yugoslav peoples have found themselves."

The Soviet president stated the readiness to contribute to a political solution of the crisis "if the wish existed on the part of the Yugoslav friends."

Gorbachev, Croatia's Tudjman Meet

LD1510175191 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1654 GMT 15 Oct 91

[By diplomatic correspondent Andrey Pershin]

[Text] Moscow, 15 Oct (TASS)—USSR President Mikhail Gorbachev, who has taken upon himself the mission of mediator in settling the bloody conflict in Yugoslavia, received Croatian President Franjo Tudjman in the Kremlin this evening, almost immediately after his conversation with the Serbian leader. Welcoming the guest, Mikhail Gorbachev expressed sympathy with "the misfortune of Yugoslavia," where bloodshed is continuing. The president declared that he wants, both in word and in concrete deeds, to assist a political settlement of the crisis. At the same time, he expressed the hope that the warring sides would act in the same direction. Mikhail Gorbachev and Franjo Tudjman agreed that everything possible must be done to prevent a partisan war being unleashed in Yugoslavia. "There are similar problems in the Soviet Union, which is why we in our country are so worried and sympathetic towards the latest events in Yugoslavia," Mikhail Gorbachev said. Taking part in the conversation on the Soviet side were Foreign Minister Boris Pankin and presidential aide Anatoliy Chernyayev.

Tudjman 'Pleased' With Gorbachev Stance

LD1510193191 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1845 GMT 15 Oct 91

[By diplomatic correspondent Andrey Pershin]

[Text] Moscow, 15 Oct (TASS)—"I am pleased that USSR President Mikhail Gorbachev has a precise position on settling the crisis in Yugoslavia, which consists of attaining an immediate cease-fire and subsequently resolving all controversial problems through talks," Croatian President Franjo Tudjman commented in an interview given in the Kremlin to a group of Soviet and

Yugoslav journalists on the results of today's conversation with the head of the Soviet state, who has taken upon himself the mediating mission in stopping the bloodshed in Yugoslavia. He also stated that his meeting with Slobodan Milosevic, the leader of Serbia, would take place today at a dinner to be given by the USSR president in Moscow.

Joint Communique Signed

LD1510203691 Moscow TASS in English 2025 GMT 15 Oct 91

[By diplomatic correspondent Andrey Pershin]

[Text] Moscow October 15 TASS—President Mikhail Gorbachev and Presidents Slobodan Milosevic of Serbia and Franjo Tudjman of Croatia today signed a joint communique in Moscow. Gorbachev's mediating mission aims to end the bloodshed in Yugoslavia.

The sides favoured putting an immediate end to all combat actions. The Serbian and Croatian leaders undertake to begin talks within a month, aimed to resolve disputable problems in the interest of all Yugoslavia's peoples and citizens, the communique reads.

The Serbian and Croatian presidents appealed to the Soviet Union, the United States and the European Community, asking them to render good offices in settling the conflict.

Addressing correspondents after the communique was published, the Soviet president expressed readiness to help settle the conflict. The Serbian and Croatian leaders also addressed reporters.

Further on Communique

LD1610081291 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2110 GMT 15 Oct 91

[By diplomatic correspondent Andrey Pershin]

[Text] Moscow, 15 Oct—The joint communique on the meeting in Moscow between the presidents of the USSR, Serbia, and Croatia, published here today, accurately summed up Mikhail Gorbachev's mission as mediator to halt the bloody conflict in Yugoslavia.

It points out that as a result of a thorough discussion of aspects of the Yugoslav crisis, the sides reached agreement on three key points. First, they stated the need for an immediate halt to all armed conflicts. Second, it was agreed that within a month leading representatives of Serbia and Croatia will begin a negotiation process on all issues that are the subject of dispute and disagreement, conducting this with consideration for the interests of the peoples of Yugoslavia. The talks should be conducted on the basis of the principles of respect for the sovereign rights of peoples and the equality of the republics of Serbia and Croatia, with the aim of ensuring a stable peace and good-neighborliness between Serbia and Croatia. Third, the presidents of Serbia and Croatia appealed to the Soviet Union, the United States, and the European Community to provide their good offices in organizing and conducting the talks process.

Speaking to journalists at a ceremony during which the joint communique was made public, Mikhail Gorbachev noted that all the partners "understood each other better than anyone else," because there are similar problems in the USSR and Yugoslavia. We perceive what is happening in Yugoslavia, he explained, in the same way as we perceive what is happening in our country. Stressing the USSR's readiness to continue to provide its good offices in settling the conflict, the head of the Soviet state voiced the hope that the talks between Serbia and Croatia would be successful. He noted that there are opportunities through a political settlement of the crisis to achieve peace and good-neighborly relations between these two republics. Having said that he is to meet the leaders of Armenia and Azerbaijan in the next few days to discuss similar problems, the USSR president added: "So, everything in the world is interconnected."

Serbian leader Slobodan Milosevic stated that a peaceful path toward settling the conflict in Yugoslavia would be the only just one. He voiced the hope that the crisis can be overcome in precisely such a peaceful way in the interests of all peoples and citizens of Yugoslavia, because there is no alternative to this.

Croatian President Franjo Tudjman thanked Mikhail Gorbachev for his contribution to settling the Yugoslav conflict. He said that the good offices on the part of the USSR, which is now creating a new Union, would be most useful in settling the Yugoslav crisis.

West Europe

Full Membership in Council of Europe Urged

LD1410123191 Moscow TASS in English 1159 GMT 14 Oct 91

[By diplomatic correspondent Leonid Timofeyev]

[Text] Moscow October 14 TASS—The USSR should be a full-fledged member of the Council of Europe said Yevgeniy Gusarov, head of the USSR Foreign Ministry Directorate for Security and Cooperation. He addressed here today a first ever seminar in the Soviet Union of the Council of Europe, an intergovernmental political consultative organisation which unites 25 European countries with democratic and pluralistic regimes.

The USSR now has the status of a state invited to the Council of Europe. This year the Soviet Union signed the European convention on culture which will enable it to participate in the activity of the Council of Europe in the areas of education, culture, sports, youth affairs. Gusarov said that documents in the area of human rights and environmental protection worked out by the Council of Europe indicate to peoples in the USSR the way of returning to the domain of European civilisation.

Talks With Finland on New Treaty Begin

LD1410220591 Helsinki Suomen Yleisradio Network in Finnish 0900 GMT 14 Oct 91

[Text] Finland and the Soviet Union have started negotiations in Moscow on replacing the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation, and Mutual Assistance [YYA Treaty] with a completely new treaty. Finland does not want the new neighborhood treaty to include mention of military assistance, which is included in the current YYA Treaty. Finland proposes that the name of the new treaty be: Treaty on Good-Neighborliness and Cooperation. The Finnish delegation will not take up the return of Karjala and Petsamo, lost in the war. Foreign Minister Paavo Vaeyrynen emphasized a little while ago that Finland accepted the cession of territory in the Paris peace treaty after World War II. The Finnish delegation will start negotiations tomorrow with the Russian Federation on a general agreement and on cooperation in the areas near Finland. The Finnish negotiators are led by the Jaakko Blomberg, head of the Political Department of the Foreign Ministry, and the Soviet party by Deputy Foreign Minister Yuriy Deryabin. The negotiations will probably take several months.

Discussion of Karelia Rejected

LD1510083691 Helsinki Suomen Yleisradio Network in Finnish 1600 GMT 14 Oct 91

[Excerpts] Finland and the Soviet Union have started talks on a new treaty to replace the Treaty of Friendship, Cooperation, and Mutual Assistance. No information has been made public about the talks held near Moscow. Finland will also have talks tomorrow with Russia. A Russian deputy foreign minister has rejected the idea of redefining the status of the ceded Karelia, reports Jyrki Saarikoski. [passage omitted]

The Soviet Union sent material reflecting its own views to Helsinki in advance. Foreign Minister Boris Pankin has rejected the idea of discussing Karelia and the other territories ceded after the war. It had been thought possible that the Soviet Union wants confirmation of the present border in connection with the conclusion of the new treaty.

Discussions with the delegation of the central leadership will continue tomorrow. The Soviet Government, however, is no longer the only, and in the future perhaps not even the most important, negotiating partner. Thus the Finnish delegation will also meet with Russian representatives tomorrow, with whom a general political treaty will be outlined together with other agreements. Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Boris Kolokolov said in an interview to Yleisradio that he hopes for extensive agreements between the two countries. Although the security guarantees in the CSCE era are no longer as important as they were before, Kolokolov considers it politically useful to reach an agreement stating that the parties will not permit the use of their territory against each other.

Otherwise, Kolokolov, former head of protocol at the Soviet Foreign Ministry, adhered to the old and customary line. Instead of discussing border questions, Kolokolov stressed the strengthening of friendship. Kolokolov rejected the idea of Karelia being returned to Finland as separatism and speculation, instead of which it would be necessary to concentrate on thinking how to improve the living conditions of the Karelian population on the other side of Finland's eastern border to bring them up to the Finnish standard. Any kind of assistance is welcome, according to Kolokolov.

The view of the Russian Deputy Foreign Minister thus confirmed that the idea cherished in Finland of a reassessment of the status of the ceded territories will not be considered from Russia's viewpoint. While disputes about nationality are tearing the realm, the Soviet and Russian leaders feel concern from time to time about the rights of the Russians, and the present population of Soviet Karelia consists chiefly of just Russians. But even though the cause of Karelia would not progress, the burying of the YYA Treaty means, of course, a considerable change in the relations between the countries. The progress of the talks and new treaty plans are still shrouded in mystery, however.

This is Jyrki Saarikoski, Moscow.

Territory Issue Examined

PM1410084591 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 2 Oct 91 Union Edition p 3

[By V. Shmyganovskiy: "Finland Does Not Intend To Divide the Skin of the Russian Bear; Most Finnish Citizens Do Not Agree With the Idea of Returning the Eastern Territories"]

[Text] Helsinki—The weekly SEURA has decided to take the temperature of the public discussion surrounding the return of the extensive eastern territories, which passed to the Soviet Union as a result of the two world wars. This discussion, as IZVESTIYA (No. 225) has already pointed out, flared up in particular after Finland's decision to review the basic document that has regulated political relations between our countries since 1948. As both sides have now made their position totally clear—the treaty is going to be replaced (to the satisfaction of the small number of Finns opposed to it)—the next stage could be a regrouping of forces to bring about the return of the lost territories. Let me remind you that we are basically talking about Karelia or, to be more precise, the Karelian isthmus, including the city of Vyborg (Viipuri), which many, many Finns hold dear. As is well known, this territory was given to Finland by Emperor Aleksandr I after the victory over the Swedes in 1809.

Despite the Finnish Government's clear stand on this matter, also reported by IZVESTIYA, from time to time there is a surge of territorial demands. According to SEURA, however, only 36 percent of respondents said they would like the authorities to take active steps to

restore Karelia to Finland. Most Finns (including a great many young people) do not agree with the idea.

Nevertheless, the argument is going to surface again and again. This phenomenon can be considered perfectly normal for a democratic society. Feeling has sometimes run high in the past, when the government was far more cautious toward the USSR. And the Soviet press? It remained silent, pretending that nothing was happening. It took the old, stereotyped attitude of avoiding sharp corners in relations between our countries.

What has been proposed by representatives of the Finnish Rural Party, in particular? To negotiate the return of Karelia or, if that fails, to buy it back from the USSR, getting the entire Finnish population to raise the money needed for the purpose. They have also suggested "exchanging" the isthmus for the Aland Islands, where there are still the remains of a Russian fortress and a main port named in honor of the Russian empress. For all the extravagance of this proposal, we must admit that it completely ignores the interests of the demilitarized islands' Swedish-speaking population, which has been known to protest against its own country's warships putting in at port!

This alone—stopping at nothing, even violating the rights of another people for the sake of achieving one's objective—reveals the danger that lies in demands to review the status quo. Realization of this is apparent in the questions being asked by the main organ of Finland's ruling Center Party, the newspaper SUOMENMAA: "Should we be a country that opens a discussion on changing postwar borders? Does Finnish territory need to be 'moved' again to within a few dozen kilometers from St. Petersburg?" The newspaper also asks: Where would the money come from? Who would want to move to these regions? Is Finland prepared for "trilingualism," in view of the Russian population that might want to stay where it is? "There are many difficult questions concerning Karelia, which urge caution," SUOMENMAA concludes.

About the cost, incidentally. HELSINGIN SANOMAT estimates that each Finn would have to give 30,000 marks over the next 10 years to develop Karelia. A total of more than 80 billion marks would be required to bring it up to "Finnish standards." The treasury would never have that kind of money.

The problem has been eased to a large extent by allowing Finnish Karelians to visit their ancestors' graves in what is now Soviet territory. Perestroyka has made this possible. Visiting the graves after so many years of waiting, asking, and despairing (for which the sluggish Soviet bureaucracy is wholly to blame), these people are shaken by the scale of the neglect in their former homeland. That is actually why Finnish tourists have been barred from the area by the guardians of our "state secrets" and "state interests."

We have already said that there are political and economic problems in the way of realizing this nostalgic dream. There is also the moral aspect to be considered. The Soviet Union and Russia are now in a difficult position. So would it be appropriate to divide the skin of a Russian bear that is making agonizing attempts to get out of the trap of the problems that have rained down on its head? Would the organization of international "pressure" on the USSR with regard to the "Karelian question"—urged by some UUSI SUOMI readers in the past—accord with the laws of good-neighborliness? On the contrary, at this troubled time it is in the interests of both countries to maintain political stability at least, if not economic stability.

No one can assume the right to hand out territory and certainly not to haggle over borders. But I am sure there will be no need to "buy back" or "exchange" Karelia, which is currently in a state of ruin. Free economic zones and open border cities like Vyborg will make for more natural, mutually advantageous ties between us in the future. As far as borders are concerned, both sides would have to agree to change them. I am convinced that the "Karelian question" will cease to be such a painful issue as democracy and market relations develop in Russia. I think a joint statement by the two governments on developing Karelia and turning it into a bridge between Russia and Finland—an idea suggested by the well-known political scientist Max Jakobson—would be most appropriate to the demands of the time.

Supreme Soviet

Presidium Prepares for Opening of New Session

Deputations Discussed

PM1510094591 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 11 Oct 91 First Edition p 3

[Report by RIA under the "Direct Line" rubric: "From USSR Supreme Soviet: Presidium Will End Its Work"]

[Text] "The main item at today's session of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium was the preparation for the opening of the new session or, more precisely, the formation of deputations from the republics, the drafting of the session's standing orders, and the examination of questions connected with amendments to existing laws," Ivan Laptev, chairman of the USSR Supreme Soviet Soviet of the Union, told your RIA correspondent 9 October. He reported: "The final session of the USSR Supreme Soviet Presidium will be held soon, and at it we will summarize the results of its activity and then the presidium will be wound up. The powers of Rafik Nishanov and myself as chairmen of the chambers will end with the opening of the sessions of the chambers of the new USSR Supreme Soviet. The new Supreme Soviet session will clearly be opened by the oldest serving deputy and the sittings of the chambers will be opened either by the USSR president or one of the republics' representatives."

IZVESTIYA Views Postponements

PM1610085391 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 11 Oct 91 Union Edition p 1

["Own Information" report: "God Himself Could Not Open a Session of a USSR Supreme Soviet Which Has Still To Take Shape"]

[Text] A Supreme Soviet Presidium session was held in the Kremlin on 9 October. A question was discussed that interests a number of people—will a session of the new Supreme Soviet take place? How is the preparation for it going?

The session has already been postponed twice. This time it is slated to begin 21 October. As Ivan Laptev said at the Presidium session, from the technical viewpoint there are no obstacles to holding the Supreme Soviet session. But up to now the main point has not been settled, namely the composition of the deputations from the sovereign republics. At the moment only six republics have done this (Belarus, Uzbekistan, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan, and Turkmenia).

And what is the situation as far as the others are concerned? In Russia this work has to a great extent been completed, and it is most likely to may be completed this coming Friday [11 October]. The Armenian Supreme Soviet, which was the subject of a report in yesterday's edition of our newspaper, has been considering three options (full participation in the work of the Union legislature, participation as an observer, or no participation whatsoever) but at the present time has still to reach a definite decision. In Azerbaijan, as we know, an early session of the republic's Supreme Soviet has begun. The delegation of representatives to the USSR Supreme Soviet is one of the questions on the agenda (but certainly not at the top of it). It is hoped that this will nevertheless be resolved. The situation in Moldova defies comprehension: Attempts by the Kremlin to clarify it have so far been unsuccessful.

No mention was made at the Presidium session of the Baltic states' participation in the new Union Supreme Soviet's work. All the indications are that it is doubtful whether Georgian representatives will be present at the session if it takes place.

The question of whether a Ukrainian deputation takes part in the first session is—again for the time being—extremely problematical. This republic's Supreme Soviet Presidium is against it. The question has been submitted to the Ukrainian legislature for consideration. Our own correspondent S. Tsikora reports from Kiev that a decision on the question of Ukrainian deputies' groups taking part in the work of the interim USSR Supreme Soviet has again been postponed. Deputies were presented with a draft decision which proposes no further participation in the Union legislature's work. The principal argument revolves around the point that the Union Supreme Soviet has been given the right to adopt laws which are to be valid on the territory of a sovereign republic, and this contradicts the Ukrainian Constitution, its independence act, and its declaration of state sovereignty.

Nevertheless, the Ukrainian deputies adopted the draft as a starting point. But opinions polarized during the subsequent discussion. One section believed that they should at least participate in the work of the Soviet of the Republics. In order to find a way out of the ever-growing conflict of opinions, the deputies once again decided to try to sum up their proposals and find a compromise. Agreement was reached on this idea. Discussion of the question has been postponed for at least a week.

Basically, as the participants at the Kremlin session noted, there is more confusion than clarity around the upcoming session of the Union legislature. Someone even made this comment, the logic of which you cannot deny: God himself could not open a session of a USSR Supreme Soviet which has still to take shape.

Despite all these emotions and doubts, the interrepublic preparatory committee is nevertheless continuing its work on holding the first session of the new Supreme Soviet (the committee, incidentally, includes representatives of 11 republics). USSR People's Deputy A. Sebentsov, leader of this committee, told us what has been achieved. A certain optimistic note could be detected in what he said, especially since the committee has really managed to get quite a lot done. Although, the

speaker stressed, it is extremely hard to reach consensus even when dealing with minor procedural questions.

Three interim sets of regulations which will determine the procedure of the joint and separate sessions of the chambers are practically ready. It is intended that the oldest deputy will open the first joint session of the Soviet of the Union and the Soviet of the Republics. Then the USSR president will speak, after which the chambers will form their leadership bodies in separate sessions. The regulations make provision for an institution of observers that is new in our legislative practice (sovereign states that have seceded from the Union may participate in the work of the USSR Supreme Soviet with observers' rights).

The preparatory committee intends to continue its work. The next step is to draw up an agenda. An agenda for a session that may not take place, unfortunately. Well, this is the sort of thing that happens in our country...

Current problems were also examined at the session of the Presidium, which in its present form is clearly coming to the end of its work.

There was a quite stormy discussion about the USSR Supreme Soviet draft resolution (which is due to be adopted by the new Union legislature if it ever reassembles) "On Guarantees and Compensations for USSR People's Deputies Relieved of Their Official Duties in the USSR Supreme Soviet and Its Organs." These are all mundane questions (temporary grants, removals, job placement, pensions, and so forth) which affect some 250 deputies. Following a discussion of the draft resolution it was decided to finalize it.

The leadership of the magazine NARODNYY DEPUTAT [People's Deputy] suggested that Academician Yevgeniy Primakov, chairman of the magazine's editorial council, be relieved of his duties. This raised no objections, probably in view of the nature of his work and his busy schedule as new chief of political intelligence.

Republics' Attendance Unclear

OW1410185691 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1630 GMT 14 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] In any case, session one of the new USSR Supreme Soviet is to open on October 21 though it is not yet clear which of the republics will send their delegations, said Chairmen of the chambers of the Union parliament Rafik Nishanov and Ivan Laptev at the Monday [14 October] session of the interrepublican committee for the preparation of the session.

By now, Belarus, Kazakhstan and the four Central Asian republics have named their delegations.

According to Laptev, "the biggest problem now is the Ukraine's uncertain position." Appeals by the USSR State Council and President Gorbachev to Ukrainian parliamentarians and republican leaders have produced no results. At the same time, said Laptev, deputies to the pre-putsch Union parliament from the electoral districts located in the Ukraine "are taking efforts to form a delegation to the USSR Supreme Soviet."

Nishanov said that, according to reports, Russia will name its delegation by the end of the week, and Armenia will re-address the issue of its participation in the session of the Union parliament. Nishanov also said that Georgia plans to deal again with the issue of its participation, though the republic had renounced participation in the parliamentary structures. As was explained by Nishanov, this shift has been caused by the declaration of the Abkhasian Supreme Soviet that in case Georgia refuses to take part in the session, Abkhasia, part of Georgia, will make an independent bid for participation.

Interrepublican Committee Prepares

LD1410225291 Moscow TASS in English 2124 GMT 14 Oct 91

[Text] Moscow October 14 TASS—A regular meeting of the inter-republican committee on the preparations for the first session of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR of the new convocation today summed up the results of work done by representatives of the sovereign republics, considering the session's issues.

The press centre of the Supreme Soviet of the USSR reports, that three projects have been agreed upon: provisional time—limits of the two new chambers—the council of republics and the council of the Union—and the document regulating the procedure of their joint work and joint adoption of decisions.

The opening and working procedure of the upcoming Supreme Soviet session has also been established.

In the common opinion of meeting participants, everything possible should be done to overcome the tendency, recently followed by some republics, towards national isolation, and, thus, provide for their broadest possible participation in the activities of the future union parliament.

The meeting discussed and, on the whole, approved, proposals on the agenda of the upcoming session, as well as on the structure of parliamentary bodies—commissions of the council of republics and the council of the union, and joint committees of both chambers.

It also coordinated proposals on the reorganization of the structure of the administrative staff of the new union parliament.

All the approved projects were sent for the additional consultation to the supreme bodies of the state authority of the sovereign republics.

PRAVDA Previews Supreme Soviet Session

PM1510143191 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 14 Oct 91 p 1, 3

[Miroslav Buzhkevich "Parliamentary Observer's Comments": "Khottabych's Telephone"]

[Text] The opening session of the country's renewed Supreme Soviet is scheduled for next Monday, 21 October. The start of its work has been deferred twice now. Will it be third-time lucky?! This question occupies the mind of many recognized politicians and ordinary voters.

The issue is not simply whether the Ukraine and Azerbaijan will be able to form their own deputations. There are quite a few other factors which could really exert an influence upon both the date the session starts and, more importantly, its progress and effectiveness.

Recently at the entrance to the building, where a number of legislative committees and commissions are located, a militiaman, after critically scrutinizing my credentials, stated categorically:

"It's invalid. It's written here—first session of the USSR Supreme Soviet, whereas you need one for the sixth. The previous one was the fifth, after all."

Okay, in our "era of general politicization," the truth can issue forth from the lips of a militiaman, can it not? Why indeed the first rather than the sixth? The opinion of lawyers to whom I put this question is divided. Some consider that the new Supreme Soviet has nothing to do with the old one. It has been formed on different principles. Its old structure, functions, and tasks have changed. Others, however, speak of violations of the country's Constitution: Why are republics permitted to nominate to the Supreme Soviet people who are not mandated as USSR people's deputy. That is impermissible in a rule-of-law state. But these and other features are all in principle explained in the same way: We are going through a transitional period, but what this is exactly and how long it will last no one can say. Many people are convinced that during such a period there is no point in adapting oneself to the laws, what is necessary is to get things done and make decisions on the basis of their expediency. But that, after all, is a retreat from the rule-of-law state.

What, then, will the country's new Supreme Soviet be engaged in during this transitional period? I fear that quite a lot of time will be used up on attrition between Union and republic deputies. The former have long since gone through their "soapbox" stage and have to a certain extent mastered the fundamentals of lawmaking. The latter includes quite a few people whose passion for verbal wrangling is unassuaged, who lack the experience of true parliamentarians, and who consider that they have been sent to the country's Supreme Soviet to instill order, resist the center, and selflessly protect the interests of their own republic. At any rate, such feelings have already been displayed by them during the preparation for the legislative session. I think that this present ailment can be overcome relatively quickly.

There is another worrying thing. The new Supreme Soviet's functions were outlined in the the Law on the Organs of USSR State Power and Management during the Transitional Period, adopted by the USSR Supreme Soviet on 5 September, but only outlined, and in principle, not in detail. The question of the competence of the country's legislature for example, hangs in mid-air. Addressing a session of the committee on legislation and law and order, People's Deputy A. Yakovlev, doctor of legal sciences, expressed the opinion that the interrepublic economic committee [IEC] is in many regards carrying out the functions of the Union government: It is engaged in a number of sectors which have remained under union management and also coordinates the actions of republics, including those aimed at implementing statewide programs. Hence it is logical to think that relations between the Supreme Soviet and the IEC are structured the same way as they are in all countries between the representative and executive organs. But "logical" in no way means necessarily so.

Peruse the treaty on the economic community. It, alas, finds no place for the country's legislature. It is as if the Supreme Soviet had no bearing on economic transformations. As if it were not its job to create a legal foundation for market relations. And what is to be done about the article in the aforementioned law which states that the IEC is accountable to the USSR Supreme Soviet? And in general if we describe as new the Supreme Soviet where deputations of the republics have a right to vote, why, as with its predecessor, is it in practice mistrusted and its evident rights limited?

But perhaps the changes in the political climate which have occurred since those memorable tragic days of August will exert a specially strong impact upon the success of the new parliament's work. These changes are probably most noticeable in Russia.

I recently heard the following joke: It is dangerous for the presidents to go on leave. Gorbachev went off to Foros and got the State Committee for the State of Emergency for his pains. Yeltsin was in Sochi when a "brawl" broke out among members of his entourage reminiscent of a martial arts competition.

The single economic space or, more accurately, the draft treaty on it, has also become a battlefield. Everyone will remember that Ye. Saburov, deputy chairman of the Council of Ministers and economics minister of Russia, went to Alma-Ata on B. Yeltsin's authority and initialed the document. However, the Federation government immediately repudiated these actions, stating that it had not authorized the minister to sign anything. It thereby expressed a negative attitude to the treaty. Justice Minister N. Fedorov publicly stated on television that Russia could not sign such a document, since it revives Union structures, and the peoples of the Federation will find

themselves under twofold pressure—the bureaucracy of the center and the bureaucracy of Russia. (The latter grows like wildfire: Around 300 people work in the offices of the Russian president's advisers alone). And moreover, the treaty discriminates against the interests of the Federation. If you add to this the statement by officials from Yeltsin's entourage that Russia must become the sole successor of the Union and also take all atomic weapons into its hands, it is not difficult to understand the alarm expressed by the leaders of the Ukraine, Kazakhstan, and other sovereign republics who see imperial ambitions and a desire for dictatorship and supremacy out of keeping with true democracy in such a position.

Does it need to be argued that the presence of single coordinating organs is a precondition for the existence of a single economic space—someone must direct the processes common to such a space? Can it also be forgotten that neither the interests of the economy and the security of the country and each republic nor our international accords and committments allow us to "haul" the ICBM's onto the territory of Russia? Common sense answers no to such questions.

However, not everyone reckons with this. The dubious habit of going for your opponent's throat has prevailed thus far with some young politicians. Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic Vice President A. Rutskoy supported the position of Federation government members, saying a propos the treaty on the economic community that Russia could not be allowed to remain a "milk cow" for the republics, as this community is being created in many respects at the expense of Russians. And immediately "berated" certain ministers in a harsh peremptory manner devoid of courtesy, charging V. Yaroshenko, minister of foreign economic relations and G. Kulik, minister of farming and food with squandering natural and raw materials and delay in implementing land reform. In his words, such actions "deserve the supreme penalty."

Such is the "democratic" language that has become established within the walls of the "White House," the emotional pitch reached by respected, reputable figures voted for by millions of Russians. What, then, are the latter now feeling, on the eve of a winter which will bring them new trials, as they observe the group skirmishes of those who promised to instill order on coming to power? Such skirmishes are taking place at every level, primarily between the organs of representative and executive power. And often within each of them.

The conflict within the ranks of the Russian administration seems to have been settled: On 11 October Boris Yeltsin stated that he is now ready to sign the treaty. However, what has occurred would be described in any civilized, democratic country as a political crisis and the guilty people would resign. But we are still a long way from such heights of democratic culture. For some reason no one seems to be in a hurry to tender his resignation.

However, many "miracles" are being wrought in other republics too. They are printing their own money; first they announce their territories are nuclear-free zones, then they state: we will keep atomic weapons; and they introduce bans on exporting goods and set up armed cordons. The words of one of the characters in Bulgakov's *Heart of a Dog* about a state of mental collapse where people are perfectly capable of resisting commonsensical statements are wholly applicable to many leaders—the proponents of these and other innovations. And all this is being done on behalf of and at the behest of the people and for their good. Yet the people's lives get worse and worse. And note how fickle fate is. Until quite recently many members of Democratic Russia were warning center leaders that the people's patience was about to snap and that they would come out onto the streets and sweep away all the union structures and the officials ensconced in them. Now, however, the democrats in power are being threatened with the same by critics on the Right and Left.

You have to agree with those who think that the democrats were ill-prepared to make proper use of the power which they received somewhat unexpectedly after the elimination of the putsch. Being at the helm of power involves work of supreme responsibility and risk even. Construction, not destruction. You do not need intelligence to destroy. But if something new is to be created you have to lay in your own stocks, stocks of profound ideas and well-considered plans which embody the people's aspirations. It seems that many of today's leaders of republics, krays, oblasts, and cities have not provided themselves with such plans.

So what, then, are we now building after the smashing of the administrative edict system and the removal from the political arena of the Communist Party—the main brake on radical changes in our life, in the opinion of many? The day before yesterday during a television conversation the president of the country expressed what his hope was—a new Union. Would that we all had his optimism. However, it made me think of old man Khottabych, the hero of Lagin's eponymous story, who made a telephone for his "master"—Volka. It had a magnificent black lacquer and nickel dial. But it was useless, because you could not use the receiver. The actual telephone was made out of black marble. I sometimes think that in constantly redrawing and rearranging our environment we are becoming like Khottabych. What is going to happen to us in an atmosphere of general political uproar and a desire to use any means to secure your own version of the country's future, heedless of common sense and the historically formed economic and spiritual ties among the republics? Can we not do without "Khottabych's telephone"?

It is at this difficult time and in such a tough political climate that the country's new legislature will start its life. Will it be able to fulfill the tasks confronting it: On the one hand, speeding up the dismantling of the system that has been destroyed, while on the other laying down the legal foundations of a market economy? Everything

depends upon the people's deputies who make up the country's supreme legislative body today. If they rise above their own political ambitions, are able to restrain separatist ardor, and start to be governed by common sense alone in the interests of all our peoples, they will be accompanied by success. I want to believe this will be so!

Political & Social

Economic Treaty Signing Officially Announced

St. George's Hall, 18 Oct

LD1510144891 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1400 GMT 15 Oct 91

[Text] The official signing ceremony for the economic community treaty is to be held on 18 October in St. George's Hall at the Kremlin in Moscow. Andrey Grachev, head of the USSR president's press service, announced this at a briefing today. He recalled that the heads of state and government of Azerbaijan, Armenia, Belorussia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic, Tajikistan, Turkmenia, Uzbekistan, and Ukraine have undertaken to sign the treaty.

Georgia, Moldova Might Sign

PM1510185991 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Oct 91 Union Edition p 1

[Report by G. Alimov "Ceremony Postponed Until 18 October"]

[Excerpts] It is planned that 10 republics will sign the economic community treaty on 18 October, work has been actively conducted on the treaty in recent weeks. [passage omitted]

Observers point out that there are signs that two more republics—Georgia and Moldova—might subscribe to the treaty 18 October. It is pointed out that the nearer the date for signing the treaty comes, the more actively the Balts, who might like to join the community as associate members, are behaving. The very near future will show whether this will be so.

Treaty 'in Hands of the Ukraine'

PM1510190991 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 16 Oct 91 Union Edition p 1

[Report by A. Stepovoy under general headline "October Mist Over Union's Future. Sovereign States Will Most Likely Sign Economic Treaty. Political One Still in Doubt": "Novo-Ogarevo-2 Without the Ukraine?"]

[Excerpt] [Passage omitted] The majority of the State Council's members have agreed that the new version of the Union treaty is a continuation of the Novo-Ogarevo process. Probably the only exception is the Ukraine's stance. It has been learned from reliable sources that L. Kravchuk, chairman of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet, has confirmed the well-known position: The Ukraine will not participate in the discussion of political agreements until a republic-wide referendum has been held. This statement elicited disagreement, to say the least, from the other members of the State Council. Sovereignty is sovereignty, but anything could have been announced in the post-putsch fever. The USSR president does not share such a viewpoint. At least, M. Gorbachev repeated his former position in his latest television interview: He cannot conceive of the continuation of the Novo-Ogarevo process without the Ukraine's participation.

But the Ukrainian leadership does not seem to have any intention at present of changing its attitude toward the Union treaty. This is confirmed by information coming out of Kiev. Thus, the future fate of the Union treaty has ended up in the hands of the Ukraine, because, without this republic, much changes in the political document now being finalized—or, rather, it makes the Novo-Ogarevo process a hopeless one.

The Ukraine's decision not to participate in Union organs seems to extend to the USSR Supreme Soviet too. At least, the opening of the first session of the renewed Union legislature, which has been postponed a second time, is once again in doubt. As is known, a USSR presidential decree has scheduled the opening of the work of the country's Supreme Soviet for 21 October. And this was caused by the fact that a number of republics had not had time to form their deputations within the time previously stipulated. But information has come from Kravchuk's lips that the question of the Ukrainian deputation's participation or nonparticipation in the work of the Union legislature will be discussed only 22 October... And this date is final, determined by the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet.

One of the participants in the State Council session made this comment on the problem that has arisen: The Ukraine actively participated in the preparation of the Union treaty. If we remain indifferent about the Ukraine's nonparticipation in a matter of vital importance to everyone and about what is happening there, many people simply will not understand us.

We do not yet know exactly the form in which this nonindifference will be expressed. Maybe it will be an appeal by President Gorbachev to the people of the Ukraine, as well as, incidentally, the peoples of Moldova and Georgia, whose leaders did not participate in the 11 October State Council session. But will such a traditional form of appeal to public opinion in the said republics prove effective?

The very near future must dispel the mist which has once again thickened over the fate of the sovereign states' political treaty. I will remind you that the members of the State Council agreed to report their comments on the submitted draft within 10 days, after which collective work will begin on coordination.

And so, does Novo-Ogarevo-2 lie ahead?

Democratic Movement Statement

PM1110134191 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 10 Oct 91 Union Edition p 1

[Unattributed, undated report on statement by Movement for Democratic Reforms: "Politics Must Not Intrude Into Economics"]

[Text] Taking account of the people's will and realizing the advantages of economic integration, the Movement for Democratic Reforms political council has called on all the country's political parties and movements and constructive forces to support and approve the conclusion of the treaty on an economic community. The Movement for Democratic Reforms statement, which was handed to TASS, stresses that the development of a free economic space between sovereign states (former Union republics) is one of the most important conditions for the implementation of democratic transformations.

Without this freedom the elimination of the administrative edict system and bureaucratic management methods and the overcoming of state monopolism cannot be achieved. However, the elimination of the old economic mechanism must not, we believe, lead to the destruction of the very idea of cooperation between republics of the former USSR.

The Movement for Democratic Reforms notes with deep concern the fact that the development of enterprise in our country and its former republics is protected by legal norms to an even lesser extent than before. Domestic economic law is being brought into line with international norms extremely slowly. Politics must not be allowed to intrude arbitrarily into economics again, only this time under the banners of democracy.

Many countries have attained prosperity precisely because they have not erected artificial barriers between themselves but have been consistent in their search for mutual understanding and cooperation. With the disappearance of the old regime of power such a version of fruitful cooperation cannot be ruled out for our country too. It is now a matter of not missing the opportunities that have opened up.

Many highly developed countries would like to maintain civilized economic and trade ties with us and would even like to give us essential aid. But this entry into the world community also presupposes the existence not of a conglomerate of bickering states but of an economic and political formation which would be regarded as a reliable partner.

Republics Discuss 1992 Food Agreement in Moscow

OW1210180991 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1630 GMT 12 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] On Saturday [12 October], the leaders and representatives of the republics gathered in Moscow to discuss the draft food-supply agreement between the sovereign republics for the year 1992. The draft agreement has been amended and enlarged.

But on the whole it was approved and will be sent to the heads of the republics' governments for signing.

The conference was chaired by head of the Inter-Republican Economic Committee, Ivan Silayev, who said that the agreement would be signed by all the parties concerned because, he added, "everyone has realized that it is impossible to overcome this grave crisis on one's own."

The conference has decided to shape up an inter-state centralized food fund to meet the needs of defence and of the city of Moscow, and also other needs.

The Armenian delegation proposed that sanctions be applied for delays in the transportation of food through third countries (republics). In the opinion of Yerevan, the side guilty of delaying food supplies should compensate the cost of the delayed products in hard currency and at world prices. The proposals were backed by the delegation of the Russian Federation and other republics. However, no specific resolution was passed.

Ivan Silayev also said that within a couple of weeks the committee would prepare proposals on reorganizing some of the Union structures, including ministries, into republican ones, and pass them to the USSR State Council.

Supreme Court Discusses Emerging Union State

LD1510172491 Moscow TASS in English 1622 GMT 15 Oct 91

[Text] Moscow October 15 TASS—A regular plenary meeting of the USSR Supreme Court has discussed here this legal body's future prerogatives in the new conditions of an emerging union of sovereign republics. The speakers—chairmen of the Union and republican supreme courts—noted that most civil and criminal cases will henceforth be judged by courts in the sovereign republics. The right of the Union's Supreme Court to re-examine court rulings will be fixed within limits determined by the republics.

Nevertheless, the range of the Supreme Court's prerogatives will remain very broad. For instance, the country's parliament has already adopted a law, placing within the Supreme Court's competence the hearing of a whole line of civil cases. They include, specifically, disputes over compensations for incurred losses between the Union and the republics, over the prohibition of parties, public organisations, massive movements and other associations, over the liquidation of Union or inter-republican public societies, as well as complaints against refusals to register an issue proposed to be put to an all-Union referendum—10 various cases in all. Their nature rules out the possibility of their hearing by republican courts.

The plenum believes it is worth studying the proposal to set up at all-Union level a single court establishment vested with the to right to constitutionally oversee certain functions of the existing Supreme Court of Arbitration.

The plenum has decided to submit to the USSR president within seven days corresponding proposals, based on the conclusions of the plenary meeting and taking into account the unanimous view of its praticipants, who believe that no matter what forms will be imparted to the new union of sovereign states, it is bound to possess all the features of statehood.

Mutalibov, Ter-Petrosyan Invited to Moscow

LD1410190991 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1853 GMT 14 Oct 91

[Text] Moscow, 14 Oct (TASS)—According to information received by a TASS correspondent, USSR President Mikhail Gorbachev has invited Ayaz Mutalibov, president of the Azerbaijani republic, and Levon Ter-Petrosyan, chairman of the Armenian Supreme Soviet, to Moscow on Thursday, 17 October, to discuss questions connected with finding a settlement to the Nagorno-Karabakh problem. The progress in implementing the accords and decisions which were collectively worked out during the Zheleznovodsk meeting between Boris Yeltsin and Nursultan Nazarbayev with Armenian and Azerbaijan leaders will also be discussed.

IZVESTIYA on Common Foreign Policy

PM1510163991 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 12 Oct 91 Union Edition p 10

["Editorial Viewpoint" article: "Who Is in Charge of Our Foreign Policy"]

[Text] You may like or dislike the expansion of the international contacts of Russia and the other republics, but it is inevitable and stems from objective reasons which are clear to everyone: the strengthening of their independence and the increase in the role of the recent components of the Union. It is another matter that chaotic movement in this direction may cause considerable harm—not only to the center, which is weakening in this transitional period, but also to all the republics, which are acquiring increasing autonomy.

The latest example is the visit of Reginald Bartholomew, U.S. deputy secretary of state. The very fact of his talks with the Russian leaders is evidence of the successes of Russian foreign policy. But reports of Russia's sensational proposals indicating that it is prepared to "go further than Gorbachev" in reducing nuclear arms are discouraging.

There is no denying that Washington and Moscow have begun a wonderful contest: who will step more resolutely toward disarmament. But when another party, another "second Moscow" joins in, the Americans' heads start spinning: Which one should they deal with? After all, the USSR president has only just presented his arms reduction program. It was greeted with enthusiasm in the West, it was prepared with the assistance of highly intelligent and highly experienced experts, and it was coordinated with republic leaders. So what is to be done now? Should the "disarmament program" of each republic in fact be examined separately...

The idea of creating a council of republic foreign ministers to somehow coordinate common actions in the international arena was a good one. But so far things have not reached the point of achieving this aim in practice. Yet the nuclear weapons factor is the most important factor, though not the only one, that is making our partners dream of clarity in our foreign policy; it is seemingly unclear who is in charge of it.

The uneasy question is already being asked in the West: Whom should we deal with? With whom should we hold talks and resolve complex problems of international life, to whom should we appeal? And something that may be particularly topical: Whom should we help? Maybe it is best to wait for some kind of clarity first of all and see who is "calling the shots" in what is still called the USSR. And indeed we ourselves absolutely need to preserve a common space—not just an economic one, but also a common foreign policy space—at least for the transitional period. After all, the one is inseparably linked with the other.

Bakatin Interviewed Concerning KGB Reforms

LD1510230991 Moscow Central Television First Program Network in Russian 1931 GMT 15 Oct 91

[Interview with USSR KGB chief Vadim Viktorovich Bakatin by program presenter Irina Mishina; place and date not given—live or recorded; from the "Viewpoint" program]

[Text] [Mishina] Vadim Viktorovich, a decision has been adopted on the fundamental reform of the KGB in which ways will this reform be carried out?

[Bakatin] The committee which is being abolished will be the basis for different, independent bodies such as an external intelligence service, or a central intelligence service, as it is being called. Now, an interrepublican counterintelligence committee...[corrects himself] an interrepublican counterintelligence service—I prefer the word service to committee—and the border troops, who are an independent type of troops and who, strictly speaking, will be doing the same work as they did before...

[Mishina] Fine, the intelligence services are going, the border troops are going. What will you be left with, and how many men?

[Bakatin] Something like 60,000 troops have already left. Even without that...you may remember that all the special troops—as soon as I was given the opportunity to

adopt certain decisions all the special troops of the KGB were handed over to the Soviet Army. That's the first thing. And the second thing is that the communications troops have gone with the formation of the special committee of government communications. In other words, something like 60,000 troops have already gone. Now, over 200,000 troops will also be going, but these are frontier troops—they will not be going anywhere—they will simply be independent and they will not be under my jurisdiction, you understand? So, well, I can guarantee, or I can swear that I will not use them for evil means, I will not use the frontier troops to isolate presidents in Foros, as was done, for example, during the coup.

A great deal of work lies ahead in organizing the Russian committee, and I think that a considerable part—maybe more, maybe not, but at least half-and-half, it's difficult to say at the moment—but a very sizable number of the personnel of the union KGB...

[Mishina, interrupting] There will be a division?

[Bakatin] Yes. They will be fused into the Russian system.

[Mishina] What will that structure, that service, which you will be heading be doing, specifically?

[Bakatin] Counterintelligence—that's the first thing. If that is, perhaps, number one, then the second thing will be the fight against organized crime, against those forms of it which are the most dangerous that is terrorism, drug-trafficking, corruption, financial crimes. That's number two. And the third, and most important, is to establish a normal service of information to the supreme state structures, both republican and union. This information is the main task, information which would enable developments and trends which are dangerous for the state, for society and for the individual to be foreseen and to be prevented.

We shall deal with all the problems of which we have a sufficient supply, ranging from the economy, where I think there is no less danger, and probably more, than in any other area, to ecology. Everything is our field. Besides, let me say it again, there is counterintelligence. Counterintelligence is the struggle against foreign intelligence services, which are still operating on our territory. That is obvious. It is probably hard for me to give you an answer, since the basic security framework has not been worked out, and it cannot be worked out until we make up our minds on what the Union means.

[Mishina] One of your first actions after taking up this post was to meet with Bukovskiy, the former dissident. For many it was a sensation, something quite unexpected. Was it some kind of symbol of the KGB's new role?

[Bakatin] No, why should it be just Bukovskiy? I have also met with His Holiness, for example, and not just Bukovskiy. I have met Yelena Bonner, I very much...

[Mishina] They are people against whom the KGB fought for a long time.

[Bakatin] That is just what I am talking about. The KGB fought against dissent, didn't it? When there was a monopoly on one ideology, you inevitably had dissent, which was whatever did not coincide with that ideology. Now, there is no monopoly on ideology, there is no dissent, and there is nobody for the KGB to fight against.

[Mishina] I want now to have a little argument with you. What is going on in the KGB is viewed variously as collapse, disbandment or reorganization. But you see, one way or another, it all reflects the processes which are taking place in our country, not only at your level. Do you not think it reflects the principle which has been dominant recently: We shall destroy the whole world by force, to its foundations, and then .... [quotation from the Internationale] All the countries of the world have a state security service; do you not think that what is happening in your service now is doing damage to our security?

[Bakatin] I am not going to argue with you. In the first place, the last thing I want to do is to destroy anything to its foundations. I believe, if you take those areas about which I have told you, surely disintegration does not mean destruction? If we separate intelligence and counterintelligence, surely that is not destruction? Surely intelligence and counterintelligence are not vanishing, so to speak, as a result of this? They are being maintained, but what is vanishing is the monopolistic status. It is necessary now to conclude agreements between the republics and our committee, or our service. Such agreements have been drawn up, and they will be made. After the union treaty, the agreement, is concluded, and after we define the degree of dependence of those states, which are independent of each other, and the functions which they will transfer to that central authority, after that there must be an interstate agreement on the problems of common security.

[Mishina] Here is a question which is perhaps not directly relevant to our discussion. The whole world is talking now about the tapes containing the interrogation of members of the State Committee for the State of Emergency, which have fallen into the hands of DER SPIEGEL. Did the KGB really only find out about that in the same way as we did, by watching television programs and reading newspapers?

[Bakatin] Shameful though it is to admit that I found out about this—surely you don't think that that person who decided to sell...I am more than sure that all this really was sold to this SPIEGEL for money, and that's that. Everything in our country is, unfortunately, being sold at the moment. The KGB, generally speaking is not conducting this trial, it is the procurator's office which is conducting it. It wasn't difficult to sell it.

[Mishina] But the investigation is being conducted in parallel with the Russian KGB isn't it?

[Bakatin] Strictly speaking, it is, I think, the Russian procurator's office that is carrying out this investigation with the Russian KGB. To the extent, of course, whereby the Russian procurator's office asks us to help, then we, of course, will help. But that isn't important. The Russians, the Uzbeks, the Ukrainians...

[Mishina, interrupting] At least responsibility will rest with both of you?

[Bakatin] I consider at least that responsibility must be sorted out here. Responsibility will be borne by the investigation bodies who allowed this leakage of information.

[Mishina] Vadim Viktorovich, a few personal questions.

[Bakatin] No, you wanted to argue with me. Come on, let's argue. What shall we argue about?

[Mishina] I agreed with you!

[Bakatin] No, it was I who agreed with you!

[Mishina] You are sitting in the study of your predecessor.

[Bakatin] I've replaced the armchairs, taken away a couple of portraits, and left one. Everyone knows that. But that's not the main thing. If you like, I'll show you a bit more. In general, I think I shall be moving my study. If I stay here and I am head of the counterintelligence service, then when that happens I'll take a smaller, more comfortable study, with windows opening on to a street, because here the windows face the yard, and there's nothing interesting there. So I think I'll change my study. But that's not at all important, it's quite a personal thing. And perhaps... I've replaced a picture—this one hanging here "Spring in the North"—it's quite a nice one, I need to look at it.

[Mishina] So you don't intend to remain the occupant of this study?

[Bakatin] I think I need a move.

[Mishina] You are a man who is close to the supreme structure of state power. You are a member of the council under the president. How do you see the future, if you could look just a little bit ahead?

[Bakatin] Well, you know, after 11 October, and this State Council meeting—it is nonsense that some sort of decision on the disintegration of the KGB was adopted. That's just a detail, it's not the most important thing. I think that, for some reason, we did not notice that much more important events happened there. There was, of course, a considerably more complex question on further work on the union treaty. But, still, there it was, and it seems to me that if the Ukraine to some extent takes up a more constructive stand, then here there could be some success here, too.

[Mishina] In other words, you found some kind of optimism.

[Bakatin] I, at least, believe that we will not collapse altogether, we can't do that. The solution only lies in the fact that today there is no center as there was before. The center today is the republics; the center is the leaders of these republics, and everything is in their hands. They can reach an agreement about anything they like in the name of happiness, in the name of prosperity, and in the name of a better future for those people who entrusted them in these high offices. I still hope that this process will now begin.

[Mishina] As far as you personally are concerned, do you think that you have interesting work ahead of you?

[Bakatin] Yes. I think that we all have a lot of interesting work in front of us, because it is complex work.

Requirement for Residence Permit Overturned

'Constitutional and Legal Vacuum'

LD1110195391 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1800 GMT 11 Oct 91

[Text] The USSR constitutional compliance committee was in session 8-11 October. Reports say a ruling was officially adopted to the effect that USSR Government promulgations governing the procedure requiring permission to be sought for residence rights run counter to the Constitution, the declaration on human rights and freedoms, and international standards. It was affirmed that these promulgations will lapse as of 1 January. By that date, laws are to be adopted on the procedure for registering citizens according to place of residence and on a system for obtaining permission for entry, residence, and departures in border zones and similar localities. At the same time, it is envisaged that residence permit regulations which limit the rights of owners to administer their houses, apartments, and other property, as well as the regulations governing liability for violating permit procedures, will lapse as of today. It is deemed necessary for the Procuracy to challenge departments' and local bodies' illegal promulgations governing residence permits and the actions of state bodies with regard to the sale of residence rights.

The committee adopted a statement giving its assessment of current departures from basic constitutional provisions. Attention was drawn to the fact that the August events showed the significance of the role of constitutional laws in the life of society. In the course of subsequent events, however, society's constitutional foundations have again been threatened. Statements by certain politicians and the actions of several state bodies are aimed at undermining all confidence in the law. A dangerous situation is being created of a constitutional and legal vacuum.

The committee issued proposals to the Supreme Soviets of the Union and of the sovereign republics regarding the strengthening and protection of the constitutional order, and stressed that in the transitional period the main constitutional principles remain fully in force.

Permit Said To Outlive Usefulness

PM1410152991 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 12 Oct 91 First Edition p 1

[Report by Lyudmila Kiryushina including interview in Moscow 11 October with Sergey Alekseyev, chairman of the Constitutional Oversight Committee, under "Sensation" rubric: "Stalinist Residence-Permit System Becomes Thing of the Past 1 January 1992"]

[Text] At a session of the USSR Constitutional Oversight Committee yesterday representatives of the USSR MVD [Ministry of Internal Affairs], the USSR KGB, the USSR Defense Ministry, the USSR Supreme Court, the RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] Supreme Soviet Legislation Committee, and even, with certain reservations, a representative of the Moscow Government finally agreed that the residence-permit procedure had outlived its usefulness.

The guests were then asked to leave and the Constitutional Oversight Committee started adopting its own conclusion. The final version of it will appear Monday [14 October]. Currently I can tell readers that the procedure requiring citizens to obtain permission from administrative organs for residence, employment, study, and the acquisition of homes, apartments, dachas, or garages, as well as establishing responsibility for violation of these obligations, will lapse as of 1 January 1992.

Before then all questions relating to the registration procedure for residence should be settled, the legislative provisions on administrative and criminal responsibility for violating registration regulations should be reviewed, and the USSR Prosecutor's Office should protest all acts which run counter to the declaration of human rights and freedoms and the international pact on civil and political rights.

Sergey Alekseyev, chairman of the Constitutional Oversight Committee, then gave an exclusive interview to ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA.

[Kiryushina] So today you have finally put an end to the residence-permit procedure...

[Alekseyev] ...And we have given legislators a chance to sort things out before 1 January 1992.

[Kiryushina] What if they're unable to? Or if there are purely political delays?

[Alekseyev] Then there will be a legal vacuum and spontaneous and uncontrollable processes will begin, because documents relating to the residence-permit procedure will no longer be valid.

[Kiryushina] Will Moscow really stop emphasizing its special circumstances? Today it was reminded that it continues to sell residence permits while at the same time shouting louder than anyone about the consequences of abolishing this feudal norm.

[Alekseyev] Moscow will definitely heed our conclusion.

[Kiryushina] When you read out the points of the conclusion, you, as it were, put property owners to one side, on the basis that the residence-permit rules no longer apply to them.

[Alekseyev] Yes, they are protected by the Law on Property and by other laws which take priority over the residence regulations.

[Kiryushina] May I congratulate you on your courageous decision. It means a very great deal to our society. It was no accident that the old system would not let go of the residence-permit procedure until its very last breath.

Need for Regulation Stressed

LD1410235591 Moscow All-Union Radio First Program Radio-1 Network in Russian 1700 GMT 14 Oct 91

[Text] As of 1 January, residence permits in the USSR will no longer grant permission for residence. From now on, they will only serve as registration, reported Sergey Alekseyev, chairman of the USSR Constitutional Supervision Committee, at a news conference. At the same time the committee does permit exceptions from the rules where these affect matters of state security, public order, or citizens' health. After 1 January it is possible that questions to do with permits will pass from the militia to the executive bodies. It has not been ruled out that Moscow may have particular, heightened conditions for registration. Alekseyev noted that measures for the legal regulation of questions of property were needed. It is being taken over, privatized without a legal basis. The old nomenklatura, said Sergey Alekseyev, taking advantage of its connections, is quickly grabbing the best bits. The former party ranks are becoming businessmen and the same old power structures are being reproduced in a slightly different form. This is one of the most urgent issues of our day and it must be solved immediately on a legal basis, stressed Alekseyev.

Western Aid Could Affect 'Explosive' Situation

LD1510062291 Moscow Radio Moscow World Service in English 2010 GMT 14 Oct 91

[Boris Belitskiy commentary]

[Excerpts] [Announcer] Ever since the abortive coup in Moscow in August, people here in the USSR, and indeed eveywhere, have been asking: Is another such attempt to set the clock back in this country possible, and when? These are the questions now examined by Boris Belitskiy.

[Belitskiy] It is the general opinion of analysts here in Moscow that a second attempt at a putsch as bizarre as the one in August was is practically out of the question. [passage omitted] However, the operetta-type scenario of the August coup could in due course be replaced, in the opinion of some analysts, by a much less farcical and more dangerous scenario. Such a policy is examined in an analysis attributed by some of the media to analysts at the Moscow Institute of United States and Canada

Studies, at the Institute of Europe, and by the chief analyst of the KGB, (Vladimir Rubanov). According to the scenarios now under discussion, the next attempt at a coup will not be a palace revolution, as last August, but a surreptitiously incited rebellion at the grass-roots level. What are the factors that could make such incitement successful, say by the end of the winter or the beginning of the spring?

First of all, a cold winter, a very cold winter. According to KGB analysts cited in the press, Moscow will this coming winter be short of 1,500 megawatts of electricity. Then there are the already almost bare shelves of the shops. In Moscow, meat and dairy supplies have already dropped to 80 percent of last year's level, and stocks of potatoes would without replenishment last for only 10 days. In Leningrad the situation is even worse, and in Sverdlovsk shoppers have not seen meat, fish, milk, or sweets in the shops for a long time. These are the kind of problems troublemakers could exploit to advantage.

And other problems, too. In the Army 173,000 families of officers and NCO's are today without accommodation. By the spring this figure will have increased by another 100,000—the officers returning from Germany and other East European countries, plus the tens of thousands whom the Armed Forces will shed in the course of personnel reductions, plus the redundant KGB men, many with a wealth of experience that could make them particularly dangerous in an explosive situation. The inevitable unemployment problems will be compounded by the problems of liberalized prices, which will put many goods out of the reach of a large proportion of the population. [passage omitted]

The ignition point for such an explosive mix will largely depend on the extent to which the West helps the country through this coming winter of discontent.

Trade Unions Aim at 'Grave Economic Situation'

LD1510022491 Moscow TASS in English 2301 GMT 14 Oct 91

[By TASS correspondent Vladimir Yegorov]

[Text] Moscow October 15 TASS—An appeal of Soviet trade unions to the Soviet president, the State Council, parliaments and governments of sovereign states—former Union republics—contains a package of proposals aimed to ease the grave economic situation and social tension in the country.

The document was adopted on Monday [14 October] by the presidium of the council of the General Confederation of Trade Unions of the Soviet Union.

The society is witnessing a complicated and painful process of the establishment of principles of democracy and freedom, the appeal says. The situation is especially worrying in the economy. The life is pretty hard.

That is why professional unions, their federations and other associations insistently demand the soonest conclusion of an agreement on economic community between independent states. The creation of a single economic space should become one of its major aspects.

The appeal proposed to speed up the approval of a consumer goods basket in each of the republics, and to establish in 1992, in accordance with it, the amount of minimum wages and salaries, pensions, stipends and allowances—no less than the subsistence minimum.

In the opinion of trade unions, a system of natural support of the poorest groups of the population with vitally important foodstuffs, consumer goods and medicines, should be elaborated and implemented on November 1, 1991.

The trade unions insist on a full-scale introduction on January 1, 1992, of the law on pensions, the preservation for the transitional period of the existing procedure of granting free housing to poor people and a considerable reduction of rent and payments for communal services.

They also demand the immediate elaboration and introduction of an inter-state program of the population's employment.

The appeal does not call in question the fact that the fulfilment of all the proposals will require considerable material and financial expenses.

"No matter how difficult it might be for the sick economy to fulfil social programs, they must be implemented. Trade unions will fight for this, since there is no other way," the appeal says.

Newsmen Briefed on New Left-Wing Party's Aims

PM1610103991 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 11 Oct 91 Union Edition p 2

[Report by A. Stepovoy "Everyone Is Hurrying To Dissociate Themselves From the CPSU a Little More Quickly, Only Not From Its Property"]

[Text] An announcement was made in Moscow 9 October about the setting up of yet another party. Its working title is the Party of Left-Wing Forces of Socialist Orientation (PLSSO). The action group, which for some reason assembled in the country's Supreme Soviet building on Kalinin Prospect, told journalists about the aims and tasks of the new political structure and its views on CPSU property.

The five representatives of the nascent PLSSO were people of various ages, but all of them had a very orthodox attitude to the country's Communist Party in the recent past. Three of them—Roy Medvedev from Moscow, Anatoliy Denisov from St. Petersburg, and Aleksandr Maltsev from Nizhniy Novgorod—are members of the CPSU Central Committee; Ivan Rybkin from Volgograd was recently a CPSU oblast committee secretary and also cochairman of the "Communists of

Russia" deputies' group in the Russian parliament. The youngest of them was Gennadiy Sklyar, secretary of the Obninsk City Party Committee.

In his opening address, R. Medvedev spoke with unconcealed bitterness about the illegal suspension of CPSU activity, although he did not hide the fact that it is now impossible to bring back the Communist Party in its former guise.

If not in its previous guise, what guise can it take? The journalists did not get a clear answer to this question. It was merely announced that the new party will be a parliamentary one, it will have no professional apparatus (this would not include technical workers), and will adhere to a socialist orientation, that is to say it will continue to implement socialist ideas, not, it is true, on former USSR territory, but in the Russian sociopolitical space. This party aims to build a democratic and socialist society.

What funds do these far from ordinary members of the CPSU intend to use in order to build this society? The organizational committee members declined to give a direct answer to the question of whether the nascent PLSSO considers itself to be the successor to the CPSU and the RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] Communist Party, but there is no doubt that they will lay claim to Communist Party property.

So who is behind the PLSSO organizers? Just the 10 people who composed the statement published a week ago in the press? Not quite. The action group members did not hide the fact that they announced their intentions to President M. Gorbachev and V. Kuptsov, first secretary of the RSFSR Communist Party Central Committee, and they had met with V. Ivashko, deputy general secretary of the CPSU Central Committee. The journalists were informed that these people sympathized with their idea. The latter two promised not to interfere in the process of setting up the PLSSO, but if required they would provide whatever assistance they could. They did not elaborate on what sort of assistance this would be.

There would seem to be no doubt that the PLSSO will be overtly pro-communist. After all, its organizers have not hidden the fact that they intend to take the new but unadopted CPSU program as the basis for their political doctrine. But here is the paradox: They have asked to be called Socialists, not Communists. A.R. Medvedev, it turned out, always was and will remain a democratic socialist.

The founders of the new party reacted somewhat nervously to a question put by a worker from Yakutia, who was completely unable to make sense of a proposition advanced by A. Denisov, who stated that the best way to socialism lies through capitalism. "We have not gathered here for theoretical discussions," the worker heard.

I do not know what this worker thought, but many people took this to mean that once again we are being urged to press on toward a bright, happy, socialist future. Wouldn't it be interesting to know how many other people in our fatherland want to gawk at the expression on the face of humane and progressive socialism?

Poll on Political, Economic, Ethnic Outlook

OW1210100691 Moscow INTERFAX in English 0940 GMT 12 Oct 91

["Viewpoint" feature; via KYODO]

[Text] In September, the National Public Opinion Studies Centre (VCIOM) asked 2,075 respondents to say what they thought about the USSR's future in terms of its economic and political development, and ethnic relations. The opinion poll was held in different regions of he USSR.

Hope for improvement in the economic, political and ethnic spheres was expressed by 24, 40 and 32 per cent of those polled, respectively; 60, 38 and 48 per cent of the respondents said that the economic, political and ethnic situation would deteriorate; 16, 22 and 20 per cent of those polled were undecided on the respective subjects.

And so, hopes have arisen for a normal and more active political life, which cannot be said about economy.

The greatest optimism about the country's economic and political future was expressed in the Russian Federation where 28 per cent of the respondents believe in positive economic changes (against the USSR's average of 24 per cent) and 43 per cent believe in a better political future (against the average of 40 per cent).

The population of Central Asia pin greater hopes on the settlement of ethnic conflicts (47 per cent against the USSR's average of 32 per cent).

The possible error stood at 3 per cent.

TASS Carries Press Review for 12 Oct

LD1210075991 Moscow TASS in English 0724 GMT 12 Oct 91

["Soviet Press Review"—Tass Headline]

[Text] Moscow October 12 TASS—Today's newspapers report about a Soviet State Council session chaired by Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev.

The leaders of ten Soviet republics are discussing a draft inter- republican economic agreement and a draft Union treaty.

The NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA newspaper said republics have reiterated their adherence to the Alma-Ata accords on "an economic community".

The Soviet youth daily KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA said at least ten republics have expressed readiness to sign the economic agreement to move towards a political union.

The State Council will thrash out and finalise a Union treaty, taking into account republics' proposals to be submitted within ten days.

Newspapers write about the situation in Chechen-Ingushetia, South Ossetia and Nagorno-Karabakh.

The SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA newspaper reports no shooting in the Nagorno-Karabakh disputed enclave on Friday [October 11].

NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA publishes an interview with Vladimir Petrovskiy, First Deputy Soviet Foreign Minister.

"The Soviet Foreign Ministry believes its main task today is to keep up the pace and dynamics in Soviet diplomacy," Petrovskiy said.

He said the ministry will reduce its diplomatic staff by 12 per cent.

The PRAVDA, SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA and RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA newspapers carry articles devoted to the four Kuril Islands claimed by Japan. The newspapers stress any territorial concessions are fraught with heavy economic losses for the Soviet Union.

PRAVDA offers an article by political scientist Boris Slavin, in which he speaks about the political consequences of the August putsch in the Soviet Union.

"The August events put an end not only to the neo-Stalinist putsch and totalitarian socialism, but also to perestroyka and its strategic orientation to humane, democratic socialism," Slavin said.

PRAVDA publishes an article by Doctors of Economics A. Adamesku and B. Kistanov, in which they discuss political and economic aspects of an inter-republican economic agreement.

They believe an economic union should be based on relations of partnership, economic equality and reciprocity.

They said an economic and political unions are inseparable and interconnected.

Deputy Eduard Gams and journalist Yuriy Selivanov told SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA the decision made by the last Congress of People's Deputies to change the structure of the Soviet parliament is a "constitutional" coup.

The new parliament will be an inter-republican rather than a federal body, fully defendant on "sovereign states". It will lose all political independence.

The Soviet military daily KRASNAYA ZVEZDA carries an interview with Navy Vice-Admiral Vladimir Yegorov, Baltic Fleet commander, in which he speaks about the future of the Baltic Fleet after Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia declared state independence.

He said a withdrawal of the Soviet Navy from the Baltic will upset the balance of military forces in this region.

He also touched upon problems of housing and redeployment of troops.

First Deputy Soviet Interior Minister Boris Gromov, former commander of Soviet troops in Afghanistan, told RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA he may be appointed a military district commander.

He expressed doubt that the republics's drive for sovereignty will solve numerous problems in the Army.

Economic

Fuel Supply Situation Reported

Discussed in Committee

LD1410233491 Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak Network in Russian 1900 GMT 14 Oct 91

[Text] This winter, all republics will receive a maximum of fuel, heat, and electricity. When this matter was discussed at a meeting of the committee for management of the national economy, it was announced that supply levels will be, on average, 93 percent of last year's limits. The Baltic countries will also receive power and fuel at these levels.

Joint Effort Needed

LD1310101291 Moscow Central Television First Program Network in Russian 1900 GMT 12 Oct 91

[From the "TV Inform" newscast]

[Text] Economic interest—in other words, common sense—ought to hold sway over political ambitions. Perhaps the question of who is right and who is to blame can wait until tomorrow because already today, for instance, we could find that even the functioning of the country's unified energy grid is falling apart—in other words, it might be not just industry but you and I, too, who could find ourselves without electricity. In the fuel complex, there is an unremitting downward trend in oil and coal extraction: the oil figure is 9.3 million tonnes less than last year, and the coal figure is 35 million tonnes. Specialists believe that the way out of the crisis is through urgent financing for the enterprises in the complex, both from the Union budget and from republican budgets, once again a joint effort.

Stocks To Decrease Dramatically

LD1510023991 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 2100 GMT 14 Oct 91

[From the "Vesti" newscast]

[Text] The fuel situation in our country is worsening. It is obvious from a report written by the economic directorate of the USSR KGB, excerpts of which were published in the latest issue of MOSKOVSKIYE NOVOSTI, that fuel stocks—in particular stocks of fuel oil, which even now at individual TETS [heat and electric power stations] amount to 50-80 percent of the quantity required—will start to decrease dramatically by the end of the second winter month. The shortfall of electricity in Moscow will amount to approximately 1.5 million kilowatts this winter. There is also no gasoline, which can be seen by the lines at Moscow gas stations—and not only in Moscow.

Explanation for 'Meager Supplies on Counters'

PM1310214391 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 Oct 91 Union Edition p 2

[Report by V. Yakovlev: "Statistics for Thought"]

[Text] The country's economy is increasingly becoming the hostage of politics. While the agonizing search is on for paths to an economic agreement and concord among the sovereign republics, the disintegration of economic ties is continuing and is already assuming a threatening scale.

According to data of the USSR state committee for statistics, contract discipline again deteriorated in September: Output worth 8 billion rubles [R] was not delivered under contracts that had been concluded—which is the record large figure for this year. In all, during the nine months of the year deliveries worth R31.6 billion have been aborted.

Practically one enterprise in every five violated contract discipline in September. And a particularly great lag occurred in the fuel and raw materials sectors—which fact is preparing a difficult winter for us. In the coal industry, for example, 65 percent of enterprises suffered interruptions, and 50 percent in the metallurgical industry.

In recent months, our statistical reviews have increasingly been acquiring the quality of monotonous statements: fall in fuel sectors, growing shortages of metal, timber, and chemical components, stagnation in consumer goods production... It makes sense today to avoid repeating irksome figures. Let us merely attempt to assess certain trends in the commodity market.

The same rate of fall was, on the whole, maintained in September as before, and in this sense it is possible to speak of the "stabilization" of the actual fall in production. Broken down into commodity groups, the situation appears as follows: in light industry a drop of 8 percent compared with the level for January-September 1990, and in food production a drop of 8.3 percent, while production of cultural and domestic goods even increased by 3.7 percent over last year's level. A still greater increase was secured in production of alcoholic beverages—4 percent.

Growth continued in September, albeit not so rapidly, in the cultural and domestic goods sector: Far more tape recorders, electric mixers, and electric meat grinders were produced. Production of vacuum cleaners, washing machines, and electric irons increased somewhat. The supply of universal kitchen machines to the trade network almost doubled compared with last year's level, while that of video recorders and products in daily demand such as batteries and voltaic cells fell by one-third; half as many pencils were produced as a year earlier. Everything is understandable here: A shortage is a shortage. But how is the disappearance of light bulbs to be explained? Six percent fewer of them were produced in September than in September 1990, and 4 percent fewer, in all, during the nine months. So why have they vanished altogether? The situation is somewhat better in the production of radio receivers, refrigerators, and television sets. However, the collapsed market no longer gives any signals—the state of a flurry of demand for absolutely everything has become stable.

The situation in light industry remains complex. During the nine months consumers received 1 billion square meters less of all kind of fabrics than by the same date last year, and 56.7 million fewer pairs of shoes. Naturally, less outer clothing and knitted goods were produced; 225,000 fewer pairs of hosiery items.

This is the explanation for the meager supplies on counters. Judging by the statistics, the storerooms of the stores are hardly bursting with goods either. And this despite the fact that the prices index for January-September stood at 217 percent. In other words, prices have more than doubled since the beginning of the year. But the mass of money in the hands of the population is even now almost three times the proposed commodity turnover for this year. More than half of all industrial output is already being sold at free market prices today. Will this save us if we rush headlong into market relations? Hardly. Everything starts with production, discipline, and strong economic ties.

Economic Management Committee Discusses Budget

Third Meeting

LD1410234891 Moscow All-Union Radio First Program Radio-1 Network in Russian 1700 GMT 14 Oct 91

[Report by correspondent Valeriy Kiosa]

[Text] The financial problem was again at the center of attention today. It was a question of the country's Ministry of Finances, yet another State Bank committee. It has been impossible so far to form the extraordinary budget for the fourth quarter, despite the fact that it is the third time the committee is discussing this problem. The need to finance a number of vital branches of our economy, however, exists. In addition, if one takes into account the fact that, according to the Ministry of Finances, there are practically no revenues to the budget

now while the financing has to be implemented, the logical question arises: Where can the required means be found?

So, today, the proposal on taking yet another credit of 25 billion rubles from the State Bank is being discussed; the sum is earmarked for October alone. Of course, this step has been dictated by the budget's desperate situation and by a deficit growth which is not merely threatening, but terrible and catastrophic. If, in the beginning of this year, the budget deficit amounted to about 9 billion rubles a month, it reached 18 billion rubles in September and calculations for October indicate a figure of 22 billion rubles. This is also a desperate step because there are no free means—this was confirmed by a State Bank representative today—and, therefore, we are opting again for money emission and an increase of the internal debt.

Nevertheless, the economic management committee supported such a decision today and intends to address the country's president with relevant proposals. As many people said today, there is no other way, and a number of branches have to be financed until the economic community treaty is signed and until it is determined who is going to deal with them. It was voiced at the sitting today that this event would take place in three days.

I called the press service of the country's president and got the following information: The signing of the economic community treaty is scheduled for 18 October. Here I should repeat again that an accord on the banking system specifying the way and principles of its operation must become an especially important accord appended to this treaty. If this is not solved in literally the next few weeks, the situation is simply likely to go out of control, especially in such a most delicate and important sphere as finances.

Budget Ready

OW1510095191 Moscow INTERFAX in English 0730 GMT 15 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Soviet Ministries of Finance and Economics have prepared a project for the extraordinary budget for the USSR in the fourth quarter of 1991. This budget allows the Soviet Gosbank to grant 30 bn [billion] rubles worth of credit to the Finance Ministry to "cover ongoing expenditures" until the end of the year.

The head of the Soviet Economics Ministry, Vladimir Durasov, said during a meeting on Monday [14 October] of the committee for operative management of the Soviet economy, that it was necessary to "change the system of taxation and to introduce a system of excise taxes." In his words, this would increase the revenues of the Union budget by 100- 120 bn rubles.

The extraordinary budget project calls for the sale of a significant amount of hard currency to the population for quick cash, at a rate only slightly lower than at hard currency auctions ($1 - 56.5 rubles). At the same time, there are plans to offer different enterprises for sale to Soviet and foreign firms at a total price of 150 bn rubles.

Statistical Data Concerning Joint Ventures

Growth at 'Rapid Pace'

OW0510054691 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1505 GMT 4 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Since the time when the first joint venture was registered in the Soviet Union in May 1987, they have been springing up in this country at a comparatively rapid pace.

The Association of Joint Ventures and International Organisations, which was set up three years ago to provide its members with legal advice, consultations and information, has supplied statistical data to INTERFAX.

It should be noted that the following data reflect the situation that existed on January 1, 1991.

The number of joint ventures registered on the territory of the USSR as of October 1, 1991, is estimated to have exceeded 5,000. Most of them, however, have not so far gone into business, while some of them have not even had their authorised capital contributed by their members. Therefore the data which follow give a fairly realistic picture of joint ventures in the Soviet Union.

Participation of Foreign Partners in Soviet Joint Ventures

Country of origin	Number of joint ventures	Authorised capital (millions of roubles)	
		Total capital	Share of foreign participant
Total	2617	18869,743	5671,91513
Great Britain	144	10267,225	5113,76898
Sweden	213	535,697	131,02467
USA	343	1008,623	116,03834
Italy	170	1747,116	55,06119
Cyprus	28	331,540	38,74876
Germany	351	732,511	36,47726
Japan	43	137,666	35,671
Poland	99	128,607	15,74727
Canada	68	312,497	14,71575
France	85	498,684	11,70372
Austria	157	563,661	10,96792
China	44	54,305	9,72492
Yugoslavia	49	246,656	9,02374
Belgium	37	112,410	6,3049
Switzerland	94	434,635	5,79284

Bulgaria	51	120,117	5,3358
India	42	66,160	5,14622
Hungary	52	172,682	4,63315
Turkey	10	13,644	4,31689
Singapore	27	23,388	2,94013
Finland	206	384,678	2,8994
Israel	4	5,080	2.540
Greece	12	14,723	2,387
Australia	31	62,876	1,670
Norway	10	10,397	1,61862
Denmark	12	8,867	1,3074
Vietnam	9	6,290	1.283
Ireland	9	9,543	1,21493
Netherlands	21	21,184	1.103
Syria	11	9,125	1,074
Lebanon	6	6,665	911
Spain	29	64,297	690
Iran	4	1,150	6445
Afghanistan	1	1,000	500
Luxembourg	7	2,410	300
Jordan	5	4,649	2845
Pakistan	3	13,820	150
Philippines	2	843	10013
Iceland	1	200	100
South Korea	8	27,496	45
Argentina	3	4,063	106

The above table does not include another 72 joint ventures set up with the participation of companies and organisations from 16 countries, including Liechtenstein, Czechoslovakia, Brazil, Egypt, Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates and Thailand. Their total authorised capital exceeds Rb500 million, but no information about the shares of foreign participants was made available.

Joint venture distribution by republic

Republic	Number of joint ventures	Authorised capital (millions of roubles
RSFSR	1978	163,023,067
including:		
Moscow	1246	40,542,855
Saint-Petersburg	221	5,145,579
Siberia	100	10,432,425
Moscow Region	66	26,681
Saint-Petersburg Region	18	33,283
Soviet Far East	63	142,458
Middle reaches of Volga	62	1,272,193
Urals	15	22,421
Central Russia	6	9,225
Rest of Russia	181	539,751
Ukraine	208	404,938
Belorussia	58	111,148
Uzbekistan	37	57,394
Kazakhstan	18	34,512
Azerbaijan	16	33,965
Turkmenia	2	7,000
Tajikistan	4	2,930
Estonia	106	131,643
Lithuania	18	50,997
Latvia	47	45,101
Georgia	72	103,518
Armenia	14	61,145
Moldova	26	19,942

The location of another 15 joint ventures with aggregate authorised capital of Rb 1.8 million has not been identified.

Joint Venture Distribution by Sphere of Operation

Sphere of Operation	Number of Joint Ventures
Real estate transactions; leasing; commercial services	1953
Wholesale and retail trade; motor car, motorcycle, and private and household goods repairs	607
Manufacture of electrotechnical and optical equipment	439
Construction	348
Utility, public and personal services	276
Textile industry, manufacture of textiles	274
Hotels and restaurants	251
Transport, storage facilities and communications	239
Other manufacturing industries	230
Production of cellulose, paper and paper products; printing industry and publishing	195
Mechanical engineering	164
Food industry	140
Wood-working industry	105
Metallurgy and metal-processing industry	105
Education	104
Financial intermediation	99
Production of other non-metallic mineral products	94
Production of chemicals, chemical products, and artificial and synthetic fibers	86
Health care and social services	61

Production of transport equipment	57
Agriculture, hunting and forestry	54
Manufacture of plastic and rubber products	49
Public administration and defense; mandatory insurance	21
Production of basic energy materials	19
Fisheries	13
Production of coke, petroleum derivatives and nuclear fuel	10
Mining for other natural resources	9
Electricity, gas and water supply	8

'Tax Breaks Encouraged'

PM1510084991 Moscow Central Television First Program Network in Russian 1300 GMT 10 Oct 91

[From the "Television News Service" newscast: Report by A. Sturua and Ye. Velichko.]

[Text] [Announcer] There are currently more than 3,000 joint ventures registered in our country. But only a handful of them operate in the production sphere.

[Sturua] Like many other joint ventures the Soviet-U.S.-Belgian enterprise Vita Commerce U.B., set up in 1989, started out as a computer importer. Vita Commerce decided to channel the easy money it made into developing the food industry. This was disclosed by the firm's leaders at a news conference. In their view, they should now work with an eye to the future, investing funds in long-term projects—above all, agriculture and food processing. The firm has already had substantial success in this area. It replaced the equipment at a starch firm with new technology in the space of just three months, resulting in a threefold reduction in headcount and a 12-fold jump in productivity. They're now working on a project involving tomato sauce production. Of course, one plant can't supply the whole country with starch or tomato sauce. But other joint ventures might do well to think about this example and move in. And our paternalistic lawmakers ought to be thinking about ways to encourage this activity—if only with tax breaks.

Volume of Bilateral Sales at Exchange Cited

OW1610121391 Moscow INTERFAX in English 0723 GMT 16 Oct 91

[From "Business Report"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Hard Currency Exchange of the USSR State Bank held trading on Tuesday [15 October]. A total of $4.32 million were sold at an average exchange rate of $1 to 61 rubles. At the previous trading on October 8 the rate was 56.5 rubles.

In October 15 trading, $3.81 million were originally offered for sale.

A Hard Currency Exchange spokesman has told IF [INTERFAX] that the volume of bilateral sales between participants in the exchange last week totaled $652 thousand at an exchange rate of $50.67 rubles.

Scientific

Closer Ties to European Space Program Viewed

927Q0002A Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 8 Oct 91 Union Edition p 2

[Interview with Yu.N. Koptev, deputy USSR minister of general machine building and president of the Kosmos concern, by IZVESTIYA science correspondent B. Konovalov; place and date not given: "A Roof in Space for the Common European Home—Now We Can Build It Together"]

[Text] **The epoch of great state upheavals has also affected our space program, whose future will have to take into account the formation of sovereign republics. The USSR Ministry of General Machine Building, engaged in the production of rocket-space materiel, is being reorganized into republic corporations consisting of a number of concerns and associations. One of the most powerful of these will be the Kosmos concern, whose composition will include all the leading organizations of the space industry operating in Russian territory, with the exception of the renowned Korolev firm, presently called the Energiya Scientific Production Association. It will apparently become an independent concern. We asked Yu.N. Koptev, deputy minister of the USSR Ministry of General Machine Building which exists for the time being, and who was elected president of the Kosmos concern, to share with us his thoughts with respect to how the USSR space program intends to survive these difficult times.**

[Koptev] Our state or community of sovereign states must realize that if the integral industrial-space complex we presently have is destroyed, this will destroy as well the vital activity systems of television, communications, meteorology, and navigation. Exploration for useful minerals will be impeded. Observing and taking stock of the condition of our lands and forests will become more complicated, as will exercising ecological control over our territories. Defensive strategic programs which utilize space technology will fail. No matter what degree of independence the present sovereign republics acquire, they must objectively maintain an interest in the utilization of space technology for economy, fundamental research, and defense. Therefore, along with the commercialization of the space program, it is absolutely necessary that budget financing for it also be maintained. No single state in the world today can do without this. But in our case, this sound and far-reaching policy is being replaced by endless unsubstantiated discussion about the "high cost" of space. Even though about 22 billion rubles [R] have been invested in the fixed assets of our industry over the entire period of existence of cosmonautics, annual expenditures for the development

and maintenance of the life-functioning of all of cosmonautics, including defense aspects, do not exceed R6 billion. And taking real inflation into account, these expenses are depreciating by a factor of two. For comparison purposes we can say that R80 billion are allocated annually on agriculture, the result of which everyone knows.

But irresponsible discussions do their work. In 1991, of those funds which were approved by the USSR Supreme Soviet within the budget framework for civilian space use, already about 30 percent has been arbitrarily "chopped." We do not know what will happen next year. What is in fact taking place right now is the destruction of one of those few of our industrial branches which is capable of standing up to competition on a global level.

[Konovalov] It has become customary today in all our difficult situations to expect that "we will get help from abroad." A joint Soviet-Austrian space flight is presently in progress. Perhaps the solution to the problem lies in expanding international cooperation and the commercialization of the space program.

[Koptev] Unfortunately, in our sphere of activity, instead of helping us, the West is today trying to trip us up. The well-known Cocom [Coordinating Committee for Multilateral Export Controls] restrictions are in effect which prohibit export of advanced technologies to the USSR. The clearest example of the effectiveness of these restrictions can be seen in the ban imposed by the United States on the export back to the USSR of our very own space nuclear reactor Topaz. Not a single satellite, if it contains just one U.S. part or if U.S. technology was used in its production, can be launched by a Soviet rocket from our cosmodromes. And the issue here is not secrets which we might allegedly steal. It is just a more cultured method of denying us entry into the world rocket-space market. When necessary the Americans are well capable of getting around all the restrictions. The so-called "black box" technology has been developed which enables countries to maintain control over their satellites and instrumentation throughout the entire journey, from time of entry into our country to launch into space. Thanks to this technology, at a time when we are in no way interfering in others' designs, the American device TOMS [Total Ozone Mass Spectrometer] was launched on board our weather satellite from the Plesetsk Cosmodrome by the Soviet Tsiklon rocket to study the Earth's ozone layer. And so it is not help we need from the West, but simply that they recognize us as equal commercial partners.

[Konovalov] Bitter though it may be to admit, it is after all because of the unrestrained USSR militarization that the restrictions were introduced by Cocom. Today the appearance of our country is changing. Democratic republics are appearing and the unnecessary degree of secrecy in defense spheres is disappearing. Why shouldn't Russia and the Ukraine, having a space industry, embark upon closer cooperation with the European Space Agency (ESA), perhaps even become associate members?

[Koptev] Here again things are somewhat complicated. We are engaged in successful cooperation and will continue to be so engaged. In any case, we are seeking contacts on a mutually beneficial basis. But ESA members want the funds they have invested to be returned to them in the form of orders for the science and industry of their own countries in the implementation of space projects. No one is about to reduce their own work space for our sake.

[Konovalov] But broader and more involved participation on the part of Russia or the Ukraine would make it possible to reduce the cost of projects. And this could constitute our contribution to the ESA. Coming up in November of this year the ESA will hold an important session in which the fate of many projects will be decided. Perhaps we could introduce proposals beneficial to the ESA?

[Koptev] Objectively speaking, it would be advantageous to the ESA to effect more involved cooperation with us. Dissipation of resources, "reinventing the wheel" with respect to designs and technology we have already fashioned not only makes things more expensive, but—and this is no less significant—draws out the time frame of implementation of European projects, causing some to become obsolete. Our active participation in such projects as building the powerful Ariane-5 rocket, the multi-use Hermes space ship, and a general-purpose near-Earth space platform would sharply accelerate the program and provide significant economic savings. And this could be seen as our contribution, the equivalent of money. For our part, we are also prepared to become more open, to establish joint space organizations with the European countries and afford the opportunity to acquire shares in our enterprises. With cordial relations, all this is possible. And indeed, perhaps it is with a roof in space that construction of the common European home will begin.

Exodus of Soviet Nuclear Scientists Assessed

PM1610080691 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 15 Oct 91 p 4

[Report by correspondent A. Lyutyy: "Brain Drain... Nuclear Scientists From the USSR—'For Hire' to Dictators?"]

[Text] London—There is growing concern in the West that certain Third World countries, in the quest for nuclear potential, are trying increasingly actively to get hold of out-of-work Soviet scientists.

This concern can be heard increasingly frequently both from government officials in Western states, and from well-known experts in nongovernmental organizations. Only the other day, for instance, Dr. Francois Heisbourg, director of the London-based International Institute for

Strategic Studies, warned that the chaotic and unsystematic curtailment of Soviet research in the military sphere could lead to the emergence of a body of scientists for hire whom dictators seeking nuclear might could tempt with good pay and working conditions.

THE SUNDAY TIMES newspaper reported the following in this connection last Sunday: "U.S. and Israeli intelligence agencies believe that Syria and North Korea are trying to get Soviet scientists and weapons experts to help them accelerate armament programs and develop nuclear weapons. They have not discounted the possibility that Iraq and Libya, which relied in the past on official Soviet help, will offer large cash inducements to scientists."

In the view of the Israeli intelligence service Mossad, Syria is already recruiting Soviet specialists, some of whom have experience in creating nuclear weapons.

To be fair, it must be said that the West has sounded the alarm over the "brain drain" from the USSR only now that our experts have become the object of attention for countries with dictatorial and totalitarian regimes. When Soviet scientists supplemented the scientific potential of Israel and the United States themselves, everything was fine. And they are still doing so. Many of the 50,000 Soviet citizens who have arrived or will arrive in the United States this year for permanent residence are scientists. They are the people for whom the U.S. immigration authorities give the "green light" first of all.

Some former Soviet citizens are now working on various NASA projects. According to THE SUNDAY TIMES, more than 3,000 families of scientists from the USSR are living in the so-called Silicon Valley in California, in the zone of high-tech laboratories and production units. And every month some 35 new families arrive in the region. Most are from St. Petersburg, with the remainder from Moscow.

The deteriorating economic situation in the USSR coupled with cuts in budget appropriations for science programs, Western experts believe, makes it impossible to stop the exodus of Soviet experts. Science leaders in the USSR are themselves pessimistic. A. Galiyev, director of the Space Research Institute in Moscow, is concerned: "There is a big danger of our leading scientists leaving for more comfortable working and living conditions abroad." Galiyev says that 500 of his best scientists are already working abroad on temporary contracts.

Under the conditions of declining orders for scientific research, some Soviet scientists see one solution in obtaining Western orders which will be carried out by Soviet research institutes. This possibility, THE SUNDAY TIMES writes, is not ruled out, for instance, by N. Ponomarev-Stepnoy, director of the Kurchatov Institute. "We have to keep the brains in this country," he says, "otherwise it will lead to destabilization in the world."

Military

General Gives Details of Armed Forces Cuts

LD1610100891 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1555 GMT 11 Oct 91

["Soviet Military Chief Discusses Structure and Make-up of USSR Armed Forces at Seminar on Military Doctrine"—TASS headline]

[Text] Vienna, 11 Oct (TASS)—Colonel-general Frants Markovskiy, first deputy head of a Main Directorate of the General Staff of the USSR Armed Forces, addressed the seminar today on the make-up and structure of the Soviet Armed Forces and the principles on which recruitment will be based. Recalling the USSR president's announcement of a further reduction of 700,000 men in the strength of the Army and Navy, the speaker stressed that it will affect all branches of the Armed Forces. In accordance with the treaty on conventional Armed Forces in Europe the main types of armaments in the European USSR will be reduced by 23,427 units, including 1,461 planes, 8,508 tanks, 13,000 armored combat vehicles, and 1,843 artillery systems. Of this number of armaments being limited under the treaty, 17,499 will be scrapped and 4,425 will be converted for use in the national economy.

F. Markovskiy noted that there are plans to carry out structural changes in the Armed Forces in the near future. The aim is to ensure that the principle of defensive sufficiency becomes one of the main features of Soviet military doctrine. The main areas in which these objectives are being tackled are the unilateral reduction in the strength of the USSR Armed Forces by 500,000 servicemen, which has now been completed; the scheduled withdrawal of Soviet forces from the territory of other countries; the scrapping of short and medium-range missiles which has been completed; the tilting of the organizational structure of combined arms divisions away from offensive and toward defensive weapons, as well as the removal of a large quantity of strike weapons from their arsenals; the elimination of mobile operational groups, the so-called "spearhead tank forces"; and the creation of a new coastal defense service in the Navy.

There are also plans to reduce the number of branches of the Armed Forces. In order to increase the reliability of control over nuclear weapons, all strategic nuclear forces and strategic defense systems will be combined in a single branch of the Armed Forces under a single operational command. There are plans to turn the ground forces into ground defense forces. The number of military districts and army directorates will be reduced and the number of combined arms divisions will be substantially cut. The Air Force and the Navy will be reformed.

According to the general, military-political structures and political organs have already been abolished in all structures of the Army and Navy, starting with the central establishment of the Ministry of Defense and ending with the lowest levels of command—battalion

and company. They are being replaced with new structures for combat training, which include completely new detachments charged with military and psychological preparation. In order to increase the control exercised by various state bodies over the activities of the Armed Forces, there are plans to create a number of committees and commissions in the Ministry of Defense establishment in which representatives of the sovereign republics will participate. These will mostly be headed by and made up of civilians.

F. Markovskiy noted that a qualitative approach had been made the basis of the provision of the USSR's Armed Forces with armaments, equipment, and other material resources. In the new economic, military, and political circumstances Soviet military doctrine provides for a departure from colossal spending on purchases of armaments in large quantities. He reported that the halting of the arms race has enabled the Soviet Union to reduce these purchases by 17 billion rubles [R], while this year appropriations for the purchase of armaments have been cut by another R8.4 billion by comparison with 1990. Altogether, spending has been cut by 25 percent.

At the same time financial outlay is planned for the destruction of armaments as envisaged under international treaties. For instance, the Soviet Union will have to spend around R4-5 billion at 1990 prices on implementing concluded agreements to reduce various types of armaments up to 1995 alone. Aside from that, in connection with the transfer of a number of enterprises of the defense industries to the jurisdiction of the sovereign republics and the conversion of military production which is under way in the USSR, the proportion of civilian output produced at them will reach 65 percent by 1995 in comparison with 40-45 percent this year. It is intended to submit 422 enterprises of the defense industry and more than 100 enterprises of the nondefense industries to partial or full conversion, F. Markovskiy concluded.

Air Force Ready To Export Military Technology

OW1610112991 Moscow INTERFAX in English 0723 GMT 16 Oct 91

[From "Business Report"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Soviet Air Force Deputy Commander-in-Chief Abrek Ayupov wants the abolition of rules banning the Soviet Air Force from exporting military hardware withdrawn from operational service. The newspaper "RABOCHAYA TRIBUNA" says that the USSR Ministry for External Economic Ties has the exclusive right to export Soviet military technology and the Soviet Air Force is entitled to a mere 3-7% of the revenue.

Ayupov says that Germany and the United States have already said they are ready to buy Soviet combat aircraft. In case of being granted the right to export military equipment independently, the USSR Air Force can offer foreign buyers about 20 MiG-29 fighters for $20 million a piece. The USSR Air force is going to retain up to 70% of hard currency revenue.

News Conference on Interrepublic Consultations

PM1610082791 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 10 Oct 91 Second Edition p 3

[Report by correspondent Major A. Yegorov under the "Direct Line" rubric: "Along the Path of Military Reform"]

[Text] USSR Ministry of Defense, 9 Oct—A news conference devoted to the results of the second interrepublic consultative meeting, at which questions of the preparation and implementation of radical military reform in the country were discussed, was held for Soviet and foreign journalists at the USSR Ministry of Defense on 9 October.

Lieutenant General V. Manilov, chief of the USSR Defense Ministry Information Directorate, told the journalists that plenipotentiary representatives of all the republics except the Ukrainian Republic traveled to Moscow. The discussion of urgent problems of defense building, which was started a month ago and was centered on the idea of the civilized preservation of a unified defense space, a unified defense system, and unified Armed Forces—an idea which takes account of the contemporary political realities—was continued.

It was reported at the news conference that the absolute majority of the participants in the meeting (from Russia, Belarus, Kazakhstan, and the Central Asian republics) confirmed their devotion to the idea of preserving the unified defense system, space, and Armed Forces. The fact that general approval was given to the idea of setting up a permanent consultative council of the republics' defense ministers (chairmen of committees for defense questions) under the USSR minister of defense was cited in confirmation of the fruitfulness of the work done. Appropriately prepared, it will be submitted to the country's State Council for examination as quickly as possible.

Volkogonov Chairs Reform Commission Session

PM1610082591 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 10 Oct 91 Second Edition p 1

[Report by TASS correspondent R. Zadunayskiy under the "Direct Line" rubric: "Commission's Final Session"]

[Text] A session of the USSR Defense Ministry commission for the abolition of military-political organs and the creation of combat training organs and structures for work with personnel in the USSR Armed Forces was held on the evening of 8 October under the chairmanship of Colonel General Dmitriy Volkogonov. It summed up the work of the commission's groups and subgroups in the main areas of their activity. The report prepared by

the commission with an exposition of its concept will be submitted for examination to the USSR Defense Ministry Collegium.

The commission for the abolition of military-political organs has proceeded to the second stage of its work, which consists in a more detailed examination of proposals with regard to their practical implementation. Thus the group for the development of new organizational staff structures, as group staffer Vitaliy Kovalevskiy, Doctor of Philosophical Sciences Professor told the TASS correspondent, will tackle the development of qualifying characteristics and official functions for new specialties and posts in the Army and Navy, as well as other questions.

In addition, in the next few days the commission will begin certifying the former top USSR Ministry of Defense military-political staff. Officers and generals who were hitherto leading personnel of the USSR Armed Forces Main Military-Political Directorate and the military-political directorates of the branches and categories of troops, chiefs of military-political departments of military higher educational institutions, chiefs of social sciences departments of military academies, and others will have to be certified.

French Firms To Help Convert Defense Industry

OW1410054491 Moscow INTERFAX in English 2223 GMT 13 Oct 91

[From the "Soviet Business Report"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text]France—A delegation of chief executives at major Soviet electronics, aircraft and shipbuilding companies of the Soviet defense sector will fly to France to negotiate with French business people in late October. The visit was agreed upon when deputy Chairman of the interrepublican economic committee Arkadiy Volsky met with the French Economics Minister Pierre Beregovoy.

The talks which are likely to be attended by Thompson CSF, HATRA, Aerospatiale, Moulinex, L'Oreale and Rhone-Poulenc will discuss the participation of French businesses in the conversion of the Soviet defense industry.

Currently, 54 of the output of the Soviet defense factories is intended for civilian use. This share is expected to rise to 65 by 1995.

Baltic Affaris

Baltic States Join Helsinki Processs

OW1510121591 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1100 GMT 15 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] In Helsinki on Tuesday [15 October] the heads of Estonian, Lithuanian and Latvian parliaments Arnold Ruutel, Vytautas Landsbergis and Anatolijs Gorbunovs signed the final documents of the Conference on Security and Cooperation in Europe. The 3 Baltic states have become full-fledged members of the Helsinki process.

The Final Act of the Helsinki Accords signed 16 years ago by the leaders of 33 European countries, the U.S. and Canada stipulates for the basic principles of peaceful coexistence and guarantees human rights in the CSCE countries.

Speaking at the ceremony of signing, Finland's President Mauno Koivisto welcomed the joining of the CSCE process by the Baltic states and described it as a sign of revolutionary changes in Europe that took place in the past few years.

The ceremony of signing the documents as attended by the ambassadors of all countries that signed the Final Act of the Helsinki Accords in 1975.

Estonia

Ruutel Assesses Baltic Council 5 Oct Session

LD1210121991 Tallinn Radio Tallinn Network in Estonian 1800 GMT 6 Oct 91

[Excerpts] Yesterday's Baltic Council session took longer than planned in Vilnius. If in today's RAHVA HAAL we can read that cooperation was very successful, then one should add that cooperation took some effort and was tense. In the evening, after the session ended, Arnold Ruutel, leader of our delegation and Supreme Council chairman, assessed the results of the work:

[Begin Ruutel recording] [passage omitted] Our document proposes that the USSR begin withdrawing troops immediately, adding that it should be implemented as soon as possible. It is necessary to withdraw troops from all three Baltic states' capitals first, all branches of the forces. It is also necessary to withdraw immediately all offensive military units, like paratrooper units and others. Then, it is necessary to coordinate further activity already in the course of talks. Our document also draws attention to the fact that it is also necessary to deal with simultaneously the matter of the USSR ensuring all necessary conditions—those necessary socially—to the families of officers in the forces to be withdrawn, otherwise it will result simply in a kind of political explosion. We also address a number of other states: Perhaps they have the opportunity to render assistance to this end in various ways—be it financial aid, for example—to ensure a withdrawal of these forces and to do so within the framework of realistic material conditions. [end recording]

Supreme Soviet Views Draft Citizenship Law

LD1510201991 Moscow TASS in English 1451 GMT 15 Oct 91

[By correspondent Albert Maloveryan]

[Text] Tallinn October 15 TASS—"People sentenced for grave crimes against the individual and active fighters against Estonia's independence cannot expect to get Estonian citizenship," it is pointed out in the citizenship bill approved in principle by the majority of the Estonian Supreme Soviet.

The draft was drawn up by the Citizenship Commission. As other alternative versions, it is based on the Citizenship Law of 1938, which is to be put into force again. But, as distinct from other drafts, it envisages privileges, which will help people, who have settled permanently in Estonia after June 16, 1940, to obtain Estonian citizenship. Thus, a simplified naturalisation process may be applied to people, who speak Estonian fluently and who permanently reside in the republic.

Those who do not speak Estonian, will be given a chance to learn it within a period of one year at the state's expense. "Not less than three million rubles will have to be allocated for this purpose in 1992," head of the Citizenship Commission, vice-speaker of the Estonian Parliament Mariu Lauristin presumes.

Disputes about citizenship problems have added fuel to social tension. Most active in this respect are the national-radicals, who are attacking this centrist bill from the right. They believe the present Estonian republic is not a legal successor of the Estonian Soviet Socialist Republic and, therefore, cannot bear any responsibility for those who have settled in Estonia during the years of Soviet rule. The national-radicals believe they are citizens of the USSR and their legal status can be determined only through negotiations between Estonia and the Soviet Union.

Their opponents, who favour the granting of citizenship to all permanent residents of Estonia, fear lest the restoration of the 1938 law without any amendments will leave without citizenship a considerable portion of the republic's population, because, as they presume, USSR citizenship will be short-lived, while corresponding laws have still not been adopted in the sovereign republics.

Further Provisions Noted

OW1510125491 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1100 GMT 15 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] On Monday [14 October] Estonia's parliament adopted a draft resolution on Estonian citizenship.

The parliament instructed its commission on citizenship to submit to it within 2 weeks from the date when the relevant resolution is adopted a draft bill on restoring the 1938 law on citizenship with corresponding amendments and addenda.

Under the draft bill Estonian citizenship is automatically granted to those who enjoyed it before June 16, 1940 and their offspring, with the exclusion of people who fail to inform the authorities of their intention to give up another country's citizenship within a year.

The citizens of other countries entitled to receive Estonian citizenship before the restoration of the 1938 law on citizenship as a result of marrying an Estonian citizen are granted the right to give up within a year another country's citizenship in favor of Estonian citizenship.

The time of residence in Estonia before the restoration of the law on citizenship will be included in the time of permanent residence in Estonia required for naturalization (2 years before the bill is passed and 10 years after its adoption).

Those who live in Estonia on permanent basis at the time when the bill is adopted but fail to apply for Estonian citizenship or qualify for the terms of naturalization fixed by the bill have the right to reside in Estonia enjoying all political, economic and social rights stipulated by international conventions.

The parliamentary commission on Estonian citizenship is to prepare draft treaties ith Russia, Belorussia, the Ukraine and other Soviet republics on the possibility of choosing citizenship by their nationals living in Estonia.

New Constitution Based on 1938 Document

OW1210213691 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1630 GMT 12 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Constitutional Assembly of Estonia set up by parliament and the Congress of Estonia (an organisation representing the interests of citizens of the Estonian Republic who had lived in it before 1940 and of their descendants) to work out a new constitution for Estonia completed the draft yesterday (October 11).

The draft, approved by 37 out of the 60 members of the assembly is based on the Estonian constitution of 1938. Its principal difference from the latter is that it makes a more detailed distinction between citizens and inhabitants of the Estonian Republic.

The draft will be put on a referendum.

KGB Agrees To End Republic Activity

PM1510132591 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 Oct 91 Union Edition p 2

[Leonid Levitskiy report under the "Direct Line" rubric: "KGB Leaves Estonia"]

[Text] Tallinn—Estonian Prime Minister Edgar Savisaar and USSR KGB Chairman Vadim Bakatin have signed an agreement suspending the KGB's activity in the republic. Its activity will end by 1 December.

The KGB will hand over to the republic all its movable property, real estate, equipment, special means, arms, archives, and other documents. The republic's government will receive materials on the network of agents and the KGB's operational activity in Estonia.

This information will be handed over later after legislative guarantees that secrecy of information and the safety of people whose names are given will be preserved.

The KGB has pledged to provide its personnel who decide to leave Estonia with everything they need. Those who remain will be paid a pension. The republic's government has guaranteed the former KGB personnel and members of their families who remain political and civil rights in line with international norms.

An ETA commentary on the signing of the treaty says: "The accord makes it possible to complete the extremely complex process of winding up the USSR KGB in Estonia in a form acceptable to both sides and in accordance with our interests."

Parliament Makes Changes in Taxation Laws

OW1610045891 Moscow BALTFAX in English 2030 GMT 15 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Estonian parliament has adopted a law today on the taxation of enterprises' profits and has made some amendments to the law on income tax for individuals, all of which is to come into force on January 1, 1992.

At the moment profits are taxed in accordance with a government decree adopted last year.

The new law retains the taxation scale set down by the decree, namely the tax will be:

15 per cent of an annual profit of up to 500,000 rubles;

75,000 rubles plus 23 per cent of the profit if the profit is between 500,001 and 1 million rubles;

190,000 rubles plus 30 per cent of the profit if the profit is higher than 1 million rubles.

However taxes on hard currency profits will have to be paid in hard currency. Today taxes on such profits are paid in rubles at the exchange rates established by the Bank of Estonia.

Deductions made in order to increase fixed assets (unless they constitute more than 25 per cent of gross profits) and donations to individuals or establishments (unless they constitute more than 15 per cent of gross profits) will not be taxed.

Taxes on profits from agricultural produce marketed within Estonia will be reduced by half.

There will also be tax reductions for firms using foreign capital. Thus a firm 30 per cent of whose capital is foreign (though no less than $50,000) will be tax-exempt for two years from the moment it first gets gross profit and will pay a 50-per-cent tax during the following two years. If the share of foreign capital is 50 per cent, (but no less than $1 million), the firm will be tax- exempt for three years and will pay a 50-per-cent tax during the following five years.

For individuals the highest tax-exempt annual income will now be 3,600 rubles instead of the former 1,200.

The taxation scale will be the same as before:

16 per cent on an annual income of 3,601-4,800;

768 rubles plus 24 per cent of the income if the income is between 4,801-12,000;

2,496 rubles plus 33 per cent of the income if the income is 12,001 and higher.

Taxes on hard currency incomes for individuals will also have to be paid in hard currency. The taxes will be the same as on ruble incomes but calculated on the basis of rates established by the Bank of Estonia. Thus every inhabitant of Estonia earning more than $100 a month will have to pay a 33-per-cent tax on it in hard currency.

From the beginning of this year incomes have to be declared in Estonia. The declarations are to be submitted to the Taxation Board at the end of the year.

Savisaar Meets Soviet Officers in Tallinn

OW1610033991 Moscow BALTFAX in English 2030 GMT 15 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Today (October 15) in Tallinn Estonian Prime Minister Edgar Savisaar had a meeting with the Deputy Chief of Staff of the Baltic Military District, Maj.-Gen. Vladimir Legodinov, and the commander of a motorised infantry division stationed in Tallinn, Maj.-Gen. Victor Tyutyunnikov.

According to the press service of the Estonian government, they discussed the withdrawal of Soviet army units stationed in the towns of Viliandi and Voru.

The head of the Department for State and Border Protection of the Estonian Government, Toomas Puura, has told BF [BALTFAX] that Soviet Defence Minister Yevgeniy Shaposhnikov has given an oral promise to Mr. Savisaar that these units will be withdrawn by the end of this year. Mr. Puura added that a telegram would be sent to Marshall Shaposhnikov on October 16 to remind him of his promise.

FRG Official Analyzes Political Situation

AU1510121691 Hamburg DIE WELT in German 15 Oct 91 p 5

["ms" report: "Soviets Are Leaving Behind a Difficult Heritage"]

[Text] Bonn—"The Soviet Union has recognized the Baltic states. The primary task of the political leadership now is to immediately introduce the rule of law and to start rebuilding a functioning economic system," Andreas Meyer-Landrut, state secretary at the President's Office, stated in an interview with DIE WELT after a visit to Estonia. The diplomat, who was born in Estonia, believes that the chances and risks of independence will to a considerable extent be determined by the future relationship with the Soviet Union. A solid basis must be found by both sides.

Meyer-Landrut views the fact that former Foreign Minister Eduard Shevardnadze is now conducting the talks on the shaping of future relations between the Baltic states and the Soviet Union as an encouraging decision. "We all know that Shevardnadze is a realist who will certainly not try to maintain ties that cannot be maintained," the former FRG ambassador to Moscow stressed.

According to Meyer-Landrut, three issues must be tackled as soon as possible in the negotiations. They include the question concerning the military presence of the Soviet Army in the Baltic states. The diplomat estimates that 15,000 soldiers are deployed in Estonia alone. The second problem is directly linked with this issue: The relationship with the Russians. About one-third of Estonia's 1.5 million inhabitants are ethnic Russians. According to Meyer-Landrut, regulations must be found within the framework of CSCE agreements that grant this section of the population far-reaching autonomy and the opportunity to preserve their culture. He pointed out that the atmosphere between the Estonian majority and the strong Russian minority is "very explosive at the moment."

However, the primary task is to tackle the country's economic reforms. The new leadership has inherited a difficult legacy. On the one hand, Estonia must continue its supplies to the Soviet Union because its economy cannot compete with the West at this point. On the other hand, the strong economic dependence on the Soviet Union must be reduced so that Estonia can develop a competitive economy. "Now the Estonians are faced with an ailing economy that was forced on them by the socialist command system, and they must find a way out," Meyer-Landrut stated.

The unresolved ownership issue in connection with investments by the Soviet Union in the Baltic states continues to pose a difficult problem, Meyer-Landrut stressed. "It must be determined exactly what the Soviets invested after the occupation of Estonia, and how these industrial enterprises are to be assessed."

A decisive step in implementing independence from the Soviet Union is the creation of a stable currency, both in Estonia and in the Soviet Union. During the transition period, agreements providing for compensation should be concluded, so the urgently required energy imports from the Soviet Union are ensured, Meyer-Landrut suggested. "The Soviet market is indispensable for the Baltic states because they cannot earn sufficient hard currency at the moment to create their own energy basis," the expert on Estonia stressed. The political leadership is facing similar problems concerning the establishment of a new legal system. "The problem is—like in all new democracies—that the possibility to make individual decisions, the transition from collectivism to individualism, contains a great danger—the danger of political fragmentation," Meyer-Landrut emphasized. In view of the formation of dozens of parties, leading politicians agree that Estonia needs a restrictive clause, a five-percent clause like in the FRG, to create efficient parliaments. Meyer-Landrut stated that he believes that the Estonians would like to resume German legal traditions that prevailed during the time of independence. "This includes everything from the establishment of an audit office to the legal basis for the market economy. Reprivatization measures and the promotion of private ownership are particularly urgent." The latter issue is an essential precondition for attracting foreign investors.

According to Meyer-Landrut, the opportunities for commitment by the German economy in the Baltic states are favorable at the moment. "I do not believe that it is primarily capital that is needed but the help of experts, help for self-help. This applies to all three Baltic states." As a matter of fact, "from the viewpoint of mentality, their willingness to work, their love of order, and the willingness to commit themselves, the chances of the Baltic states to become flourishing states within a short period are much greater than those of the other East European states."

Both in the textile industry and in other spheres of light industry there are traditions that open up production opportunities with chances of export to the large Russian area. In addition, "Finland is interested in the construction of a highway from Tallinn to Central Europe, which would considerably shorten and facilitate economic exchange with the EC for Finland and other countries." It is true that Estonia, "a country that seemed to have been forgotten by world policy for 30 or 40 years, and that was believed to have been swallowed by communism, is in bad shape," Meyer-Landrut admitted. "In 1968, during my first visit, the atmosphere was depressing." However, now that Estonia has been liberated, the visit to the country where he was born was a "moving experience."

Latvia

USSR Diplomatic Relations Established

LD1510134491 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1321 GMT 15 Oct 91

[By correspondent Sergey Staroselskiy]

[Text] Moscow, 15 Oct (TASS)—The Soviet Union and the Republic of Latvia have agreed to establish diplomatic relations at the embassy level. USSR Minister of Foreign Affairs Boris Pankin and Janis Jurkans, head of the Latvian diplomatic department, exchanged the corresponding notes in Moscow today.

The process of establishing diplomatic relations between the Soviet Union and the three Baltic states—Lithuania, Estonia, and Latvia—is thus complete.

For about half a century the Baltic states were part of the USSR. The Soviet Union recognized their independence on 6 September this year.

Speaking at the ceremony at which the notes were exchanged, Boris Pankin said that this is a landmark event, which completes the process of the Soviet Union's recognition of the Baltic states. The foundation has therefore been laid, he stressed, for strengthening friendship and cooperation on a mutually beneficial basis, in accordance with the Final Act of the CSCE. The minister expressed confidence that the USSR and Latvia will justify their choice in favor of democracy, and will be able to resolve the package of problems relating to bilateral relations.

The head of the Latvian diplomatic department described today's event as historic. He pointed out that it will help to strengthen Latvia's authority in the international arena.

Further on Diplomatic Ties

OW1510141991 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1330 GMT 15 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] On October 15, in Moscow, Foreign Minister of the USSR, Mr. Boris Pankin, and Latvian Foreign Minister, Mr. Janis Jurkans, exchanged notes on the establishment of diplomatic relations between the two countries.

Mr. Pankin said, after the documents were signed, that "this ceremony was vitally important as an event crowning the recognition of the Baltic states by the Soviet Union".

"The establishment of diplomatic relations was an important prerequisite for successful inter-state talks on settling all the disputable issues between the USSR and Latvia," said Mr.Pankin.

The USSR Foreign Minister also expressed hope that the negotiating mechanism would be set in motion without delay. He said special emphasis should be laid on the observance of human rights and the rights of ethnic minorities in the two countries.

The Latvian Foreign Minister described the exchange of notes as "an important step in Latvia's Eastern policy". He expressed hope that the establishment of diplomatic relations would promote the settlement of all problems between the USSR and Latvia, above all the military-political ones.

Cooperation Agreements With USSR, Russia

OW1510144391 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1330 GMT 15 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Latvian minister of the interior, Mr. Aloizs Vaznis, told BF [BALTFAX] that the interior ministers of the USSR and the Russian Federation were expected to arrive in Riga next week to sign cooperation agreements with the Interior Ministry of Latvia.

Army To Move From Baltic Military Districts

LD1210082191 Riga Radio Riga Network in English 2130 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Text] After talks in Moscow with the leadership of the USSR Ministry of Defense, the official representative of the Republic of Latvia in Moscow, Mr. Janis Peters, informed that the headquarters of the Baltic Military District of the Soviet Army will be taken away from Riga at the beginning of next year.

USSR Defense Minister Shaposhnikov also announced that Soviet Army is due to leave several other buildings, particularly former German Embassy and Latvian Society House which the Army occupied for more than 45 years.

OMON Deputy Commander's Arrest Protested

OW1610042991 Moscow BALTFAX in English 2030 GMT 15 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] On Tuesday [15 October], activists of the partiotic association OTECHESTVO (Fatherland) held a picketing action outside the Regional Council in Tyumen, Siberia, in protest against the "unlawful" arrest of Mr. Parfenov, deputy commander of the disbanded OMON [Special Purpose Militia Detachment] unit in Riga. An earlier report by local television said Parfenov had been arrested by Latvian representatives with the permission of Russia's law-enforcement bodies. The OTECHESTVO leader Alexander Repetov told BF [BALTFAX] that his fellow activists had collected 1,076 signatures in support of the call for Mr. Parfenov's release.

Tyumen's top administrator Yuri Shafranik, the chief of the city police force and the city procurator claim to have been uninformed of the planned arrest.

According to Mr. Shafranik, none of the servicemen of the Tyumen Interior Department (to which the ex-Riga OMON unit now belongs) can be detained without permission from the local administration or the leaders of Russia's Interior Ministry.

OMON commandos were transferred from Riga to Tyumen after the failed coup attempt in August to get actively involved in anti-crime action. Most residents believe the unit's arrival put the local criminal elements under more effective control. Many people maintain the "anti-OMON campaign" was launched in Tyumen by "the mafia" which finds its freedom notably restricted today.

Former 1st Secretary Rubiks Ends Hunger Strike

OW1510143591 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1330 GMT 15 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] "Heeding the working people's numerous requests," First Secretary of Latvia's former Communist Party, Mr. Alfreds Rubiks, has ended his hunger strike, the newspaper Komsomolskaya Pravda reports.

The long hunger strike has told on Mr. Rubiks's kidneys and heart, the newspaper says.

Mr. Rubiks was arrested during the August putsch for charges of "making appeals to overthrow the republic's leadership".

Rubiks 'A Political Prisoner'

LD1410225591 Moscow TASS in English 2129 GMT 14 Oct 91

[Text] Moscow October 14 TASS—Alfred Rubiks is "a political prisoner and he is persecuted for his convictions," said Moscow lawyer Igor Torgashev about his client, USSR people's deputy and first secretary of the Latvian Communist Party Central Committee, the IZVESTIA newspaper reports today.

Rubiks has been kept in the investigation ward since August 23.

"They claim that Rubiks called for the overthrow of the legitimate state power of the Latvian Republic, but do not cite any facts or evidences," the lawyer said.

In his words, he did not find any evidence in Rubiks' interrogation protocols, resolutions of the Latvian Communist Party Central Committee, or in the materials of the news conference held by Rubiks on August 19, the day of the coup attempt in the Soviet Union.

Torgashev views negatively Rubiks' custody, since he does not see anything dangerous for society in the actions of the Latvian Communist Party leader. The lawyer is sure that they could take the recognizance not to leave and free his client from the investigation ward.

Lithuania

Landsbergis Warns of Coup Danger

LD1410082991 Vilnius Radio Vilnius International Service in Lithuanian 2200 GMT 11 Oct 91

[Text] Speaking on the national radio today, Vytautas Landsbergis said that a group of Lithuanian members of parliament will attend a parliamentary conference of NATO countries. The conference on European security is to be held this month in Madrid.

The chairman of parliament pointed out that the coming visit, like the numerous other contacts with foreign countries, is aimed at political support as Lithuania is demanding the pullout of the Soviet Army from Lithuania. We need protection from military coups which are possible in the Soviet Union, Vytautas Landsbergis said, stressing that it is hard to predict how the Soviet troops stationed in Lithuania would behave if such a coup occurred.

Commentary Cites Butkevicius on Army Withdrawal

LD1510140291 Vilnius Radio Vilnius International Service in Lithuanian 0200 GMT 12 Oct 91

[Commentary by Roma Pakeniene]

[Text] The withdrawal of the Soviet Army from Lithuania and all three Baltic states is undoubtedly the most important task in the nearest future. As is known, the Baltic Council, which met in Vilnius last weekend, demanded that the Soviet Army units be pulled out as soon as possible, and from the capitals of these states by 1 December of this year.

Lithuanian National Defense Minister Audrius Butkevicius said in an interview with Radio Vilnius that implementation of this demand will depend on how possible it will be to reach an agreement with the Soviet Union's leaders. Audrius Butkevicius: Soviet machinery can move fast enough for them to leave by the end of the year; There are no technical problems here. There is only one problem: Is the Soviet Union going to observe its obligations?

As is known, according to the Helsinki agreement of 1990 on the reduction of armaments, which was signed by the Soviet Union, the withdrawn military units can no longer exist, even on the territory of the Soviet Union itself. They must be disbanded. Only the problem of using equipment and resettling the servicemen must be solved.

Meanwhile, according to Butkevicius, it is possible to judge from letters sent by servicemen stationed in Lithuania which arrived in Vilnius this week and from hints by the Soviet military leaders that the Soviets are not prepared to disband military units withdrawn from the Baltic area.

By the way, in his opinion, the letters from the Vilnius and Kaunas military addressed to Vytautas Landsbergis were political blackmail and yet another trick in an attempt to impose on Lithuania a rather remote date for the Army's withdrawal. " I know very well that these letters with categorical demands have been written not on the initative of the local military. The minister of national defense said the same old Moscow style is clearly seen here.

Butkevicius further believes that both airborne divisions deployed in Kaunas and Jonava and all military units stationed in Vilnius, and the Soviet intelligence subunits, should be withdrawn from Lithuania by the end of the year. The airborne divisions have up to 20,000 people, another 10-12,000 are in the Vilnius military units.

When we speak of the army's withdrawal from the Lithuanian capital, we have in mind not only the so-called northern townlet, and this means the 8,000-strong motorized rifle division, but all 45 military objects situated here. We demand that the city is completely clean by 1 December. It is possible to do this and essential, the minister of national defense asserted. He also stated that the situation of Vilnius is in this respect better than that of Riga, where the headquarters of the Baltic military district is situated and which is virtually overcrowded with military men.

On the other hand, he said, the withdrawal of the military from the capitals means the abolition of the Baltic Military District. Therefore, it is natural that the military are very opposed to it.

If we compare the numbers of the Army in Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia the largest number is in Lithuania. According to Butkevicius, there may be up to 45,000 servicemen in our country, roughly one-half of this number in Latvia and even fewer in Estonia.

Among the army units which must be withdrawn this year, Butkevicius mentioned also the intelligence subunits. The most important of them is near Kaunas, at Linksmakalnis. This is the radio monitoring and state communication center of the KGB and the military intelligence, also called the Soviet Union's Western ears.

So far the subordination of this object in the new Union's defense system is not clear. For this reason the Soviets are delaying its disbandment.

'By the way, this is the first military unit on Lithuania's territory the inspection of which started last week by Lithuania's representatives. I promise that this unit will be among the first to be withdrawn, Butkevicius said.

Apart from the abovementioned units which must be withdrawn by the end of this year, the minister of national defense also mentioned those whose withdrawal date could be negotiated. They are the antiaircraft defense, military airfields, and other objects not linked with the offensive armament.

In any case, the withdrawal of the Soviet Army, according to Butkevicius, will be a very difficult and painful process.

Asked about the promise by Soviet Defense Minister Shaposhnikov to send this week a commission which would be authorized to negotiate the dates of the Army's withdrawal, the minister of national defense stated that a commission arrived last Wednesday [9 October] from Riga. But it does not have the promised authorization and does not solve any principal issues, but only narrow departamental tasks.

This is the usual and familiar Soviet tactic, he said, to promise something and then not to keep this promise—even failing to explain such behavior.

Apart from that, Butkevicius sees a certain Soviet tactic also in a telegram by Minister Shaposhnikov sent allegedly by mistake to Vytautas Landsbergis which proposed to negotiate about the Soviet Union's defence budget and other military matters. As is known, General Shaposhnikov later apologized and explained that this had been a mistake by his subordinates and the telegram should not have reached Vilnius.

Acording to Butkevicius, such mistakes are not made usually, not even because of negligence by the clerks. In his opinion, they expected that the Lithuanians would maybe swallow this bait and even would come to Moscow. Then it would be possible to demonstrate to the world that Lithuania was taking part in the examination of the Soviet Union's joint defense problems. Such bait, according to the minister, has been swallowed more than once by our neighbors the Latvians and the Estonians.

I asked Minister Butkevicius about possible Western help in withdrawing the Soviet Army from the Baltic region. I do not doubt that we are going to have some Western political support, he said. But it may be more difficult to obtain material aid. One should speak here about special programs financed by Western states and concerning both Lithuania and the Soviet Union. Discussions are taking place at present, but we will receive an answer somewhat later. I think, Butkevicius said, that our interests and those of the West coincide here and they may be defended by such programs.

Deputy: 'No Concept' for Talks With USSR

LD1410213391 Moscow TASS in English 0839 GMT 14 Oct 91

[By correspondent Serafim Bykhun]

[Text] Vilnius October 14 TASS—"So far, Lithuania has not elaborated any concept for talks with the Soviet Union, at least nothing has yet been outlined in parliament," Lithuanian Deputy Nikolay Medvedev has said.

Speaking on Lithuanian radio on Sunday [13 October] night, Medvedev said he did not know "if the republican Council of Ministers has such a concept".

Speaking about the heads of Soviet delegations for talks with the Baltics, Medvedev said Anatoly Sobchak heading a delegation for talks with Estonia, is a "good political fighter and would use any slip up to drive you into a corner".

Head of a Soviet delegation for talks with Latvia Alexander Yakovlev is "an extremely honest and decent man. He understands his opponent's position, sometimes even to the detriment of the side he should represent", Medvedev said.

"Eduard Shevardnadze leads a delegation for talks with Lithuania. He also understands his opponent. He can analyse all the opponent's drawbacks and, if there are such drawbacks, engage the opponent with accurate and brief strikes," Medvedev said.

After Lithuania obtained independence, republican political circles seem to believe that talks with the Soviet Union will be rewarding for the Lithuanian side, even if there are some problems. But it seems, the republic attaches little importance to these talks.

Diplomatic Ties With South Korea Established

OW1410211091 Moscow BALTFAX in English 1600 GMT 14 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] A delegation of South Korea has arrived in Lithuania to establish diplomatic relations between the two states. The protocol will be signed later today.

South Korea was the first Asian country to recognize the independence of the Baltics on September 6, 1991.

The South Korean delegation will also visit Latvia and Estonia on the same mission.

Supreme Soviet

Session Discusses Strike by Soldiers' Mothers

PM1110125591 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 9 Oct 91 p 1

["Own information" report under the "Official Department" rubric: "In the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic Supreme Soviet Presidium"]

[Text] The latest session of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] Supreme Soviet Presidium took place yesterday.

Eleven questions were proposed for discussion. In particular, there were requests to consider the draft RSFSR Law "On Making Amendments and Additions to the RSFSR Law 'On Enterprises and Entrepreneurial Activities'" and to discuss the draft agenda for the fourth RSFSR Supreme Soviet session for the period 9 through 11 October and the report by S. Filatov, secretary of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet Presidium, on the Russian Supreme Soviet Presidium commissions for questions of citizenship and pardons and for state awards, as well as other questions concerning many aspects of life.

But the RSFSR Supreme Soviet Presidium was forced to start its proceedings with the resolution of a protracted conflict. Because the hunger strike by parents of servicemen who have died in the ranks of the Soviet Army has already been in progress for several days.

It would seem that there could be nothing to split the participants in the large mass movement of servicemen's parents who have been united by their common grief—their dead sons. But a split has occurred. To which acting Supreme Soviet Chairman Ruslan Khasbulatov responded: "So you are planning to hold your own congress in the next few days. And at it will you sort out yourselves who works and who does not. You should elect worthy leaders whom everybody will trust. So why should we make a decision now and foist it on you?"

Deputy Chairman Lobov Opposes Economic Treaty

PM1110155591 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 11 Oct 91 p 1

[Report by Aleksandr Linkov and Robert Minasov: "Fourth Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic Supreme Soviet Session. "The Political Cart Should Not Be Put Before the Economic Horse"]

[Excerpt] Addressing the 9 October parliamentary session, Oleg Lobov, first deputy chairman of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] Council of Ministers, stated that there is no split in the government—there is a difference of views, which is actually a good thing, since a pluralism of opinions enables more correct decisions to be elaborated. The Russian Government explains its refusal to sign the treaty on economic community by reference to the fact that the republics which wanted to do this want too easy a life, for all problems to be resolved once again at the center's expense, and to get hold of all the resources they needed with the aid of Moscow. This is not a path toward market relations, but a retreat.

Addressing the same session, Grigoriy Yavlinskiy drew his audience's attention to the the need to resolve economic issues above all else. "Do not put politics before economics," G. Yavlinskiy stressed. "This year the downturn in production has already reached 17.5 percent. If it dips to 20 percent, there will be economic paralysis. No one in the world knows how to get out of that."

Russia's economic situation cannot but provoke the serious concern of parliamentarians. Their speeches addressed to the government contained incontestable criticism for its slowness in adopting measures to defend the republic's economic sovereignty. Take just this one example: The Baltic region has completely partitioned off its borders with custom posts. Virtually nothing is being exported from the region. But at the moment you can take anything you like out of Russia and in any quantities.

Yesterday our correspondent met Yevgeniy Saburov. To the question as to whether the RSFSR president knew of the Alma-Ata mission of the deputy chairman of Council of Ministers, he replied: "Not only did he know, he actually approved my actions at the end of the talks."

As we now know, at the same time Igor Gavrilov, chairman of the RSFSR State Committee for Ecology and the Use of Nature, announced his resignation. Saburov does not conceal the fact that the duo wanted thereby to draw the attention of deputies and the public to the manifestly unfavorable state of affairs in the Russian Government, where, after I. Silayev's departure, the climate is determined by people whose level of competence is not in line with their status. Saburov listed them by name. In his words the Russian Council of Ministers should resign. Only a new government team—composed of real professionals—is capable of beginning radical economic reforms in Russia. [passage ommitted]

Lawmaker Wants Investigation Into Coup Leak

OW1110172091 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1520 GMT 11 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] A member of the Constitution Commission of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] Supreme Soviet, Boris Zolotukhin, suggested on Friday that the parliament set up a special commission to investigate the recent leak of information about the organizers of the August coup d'etat.

A few days ago the German weekly DER SPIEGEL published stenographic accounts of the interrogation of

members of the putschist State of Emergency Committee. The magazine said it also had some video materials at its disposal.

Mr. Zolotukhin suggested that since Russia's Procurator General Valentin Stepankov was responsible for the "unprecedentedly scandalous" leak of confidential information on the investigation, he should tender his resignation.

The MP [member of parliament] observed that it was a shame that "this tremendously important criminal and political case found itself controlled by persons who did not hesitate to steal the information and make it available to the Western media."

Parliament Approves Law on Rented Land

OW1110200691 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1730 GMT 11 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Supreme Soviet of the Russian Federation has passed a law on the payment for the use of land. The law was drafted by the Council of Ministers and the Supreme Soviet committee for the social development of rural areas, agriculture and food supply. It will be in force as of January 1 1991 [date as received].

Land owners and users, except for leasehold contractors, will pay the annual land tax. The minimum land tax rate is set at 10 roubles for one hectare of farm land.

Farm cooperatives, state-run farms, private farms and other agricultural enterprises will have to pay the land tax only.

The agricultural enterprises of industrial type will have to pay several other taxes set by law.

The normative price of land will be established by the legislatures of the constituent republics of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic and the governments of autonomous regions, districts and territories.

Federation Affairs

Russia To Have Equal Say on Nuclear Weapons

LD1510185791 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1800 GMT 15 Oct 91

[From the "Vesti" program]

[Text] Russian Vice President Rutskoy has stated that Gorbachev and Yeltsin have agreed that Russia will participate on an equal basis with the Union in the adoption of nuclear weapons decisions.

Yeltsin To Begin 'Radical Economic Reforms'

Burbulis Announces Decision

LD1510210191 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1641 GMT 15 Oct 91

[By TASS parliamentary correspondent Tamara Zamyatina]

[Text] Moscow, 15 Oct (TASS)—The Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] president intends to begin radical economic reforms, RSFSR State Secretary Gennadiy Burbulis said today after a Russian State Council sitting. He added that Boris Yeltsin will set up an economic body to implement the reforms which is capable of taking effective measures on, for example, price stabilization and possible currency reform.

Sergey Shakhray, RSFSR state counsellor on legal policy, says the RSFSR president has signed an address to the RSFSR Supreme Soviet requesting—and giving his reasons for—postponement of elections of heads of the administration from 8 December this year to 1992. In particular, the document notes the inexpediency in the current conditions of spending 300-600 million rubles from the Russian budget on these elections.

Gennadiy Burbulis also said that the RSFSR president intends to address the Russian people on the eve of the Fifth Congress of RSFSR People's Deputies. "The President's Hour," a monthly program on Russian Television, is also planned.

Transitional Government To Take Over

OW1510210891 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1915 GMT 15 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] President Boris Yeltsin has said the republic will soon get a transitional government in which the prime minister will be appointed by a presidential decree. He told Russian TV that he had considered three candidacies which he declined to name. Mr. Yeltsin indicated, however, that Alexsandr Rutskoy was not among the candidates, since he had been elected together with the president and would be free to claim any other posts only after his term of office as Russia's vice president expired.

According to Yeltsin, most of the present ministers will not enter the transitional government.

The RSFSR leader said that the bank accounts of most Union ministries would be frozen in a month's time in order to prevent the restoration of old Union structures.

Union Ministry Accounts To Be Closed

LD1610085191 Moscow TASS in English 0826 GMT 16 Oct 91

[Text] Moscow October 16 TASS—Commenting on a meeting of Russia's Council of State, held on Tuesday [15 October], President Boris Yeltsin told the "Vesti" television news programme that before launching reforms he intends to dismantle the central bureaucracy "to the end."

"In one month's time, we shall close the accounts of all Union ministries whose services we do not engage," he said.

This will be followed by the liberalisation of practically all prices, he added. "We know that this will be hard for people but we should go through this," the president of Russia said.

Yeltsin sees the beginning of a financial recovery in combatting the influx of roubles from former Union republics. He believes, for example, that the Baltic republics, by buying up farm products in Russia at high prices add to inflation and to the overall price rise.

"We need to defend ourselves," he said. The first step, he said, will be the introduction not of a real Russian currency but simply a banknote with a distinctive strip. "Through this we shall be temporarily protected. Then we shall change over to our own currency, our own banknotes," Yeltsin stated.

Interviewed on State Council Session

LD1510235891 Moscow Russian Television Network in Russian 1800 GMT 15 Oct 91

[Interview with Boris Yeltsin, president of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic, by correspondent A. Shashkov in Moscow on 15 October; from the "Vesti" newscast presented by Yuriy Rostov—recorded]

[Text] Boris Yeltsin today made his long-awaited initiatives on reforms in Russia.

[Shashkov] A sitting of the State Council of Russia took place today—as always, behind closed doors. Its results were reviewed by Boris Yeltsin in an interview with your correspondent. Very important questions were under discussion at the State Council: the situation in Russia, the impending economic reforms, and the issue of the reorganization of the government in order to implement them. Before embarking upon the reforms the president of Russia, in his own words, intends to finish demolishing the center:

[Yeltsin] For this, we are in a month's time closing the accounts of all Union ministries whose services we do not use—let them know this today.

[Shashkov] Then the liberalization of virtually all prices will follow?

[Yeltsin] This might be difficult for people to bear, but we have to go through this. Everyone today was unanimous on this, that this step has to be taken.

[Shashkov] Boris Yeltsin sees the start of financial recovery as lying in a struggle against ruble intervention by the former Union republics. For example, he considers that the Baltic republics, buying up agricultural produce in Russia at high prices, are encouraging inflation and the general rise in prices:

[Yeltsin] We have to defend ourselves, and as a first step we will move now to the introduction not of a real, so to speak, national Russian currency, but there will simply be a currency note with some kind of Russian strip across it—red, blue, and white, perhaps. Or something else, perhaps. We will then be protected by this on a temporary basis, but later we will go over to our own national currency and our own bank notes.

[Shashkov] But Boris Yeltsin needs a new government in order to carry out the reforms:

[Yeltsin] It must be a government for the transitional period, but at the same time a government that enjoys the trust of the people so that there is indeed a united team—whereas we have had the kind of situation in which one person has gone this way, another has gone that way, and they have therefore gone almost as far as a crisis situation, when they have seriously criticized their leadership.

[Shashkov] Boris Nikolayevich, these differences in the government, did they affect today's sitting of the State Council in any way?

[Yeltsin] No, today they did not. Today there was a very businesslike discussion, to the point.

[Shashkov] Does that mean that the current Cabinet of Ministers will resign?

[Yeltsin] I think that in order for us not to create a vacuum, we will simply appoint an acting chairman of the Council of Ministers by decree of the president and begin putting together the Council of Ministers itself. Many of those who are there today will move across into it, but a number will be replaced—that is certain. The main thing is that nearly half of the ministries will be eliminated.

[Shashkov] Who do you think is destined for the role of acting prime minister?

[Yeltsin] There are several candidacies now being discussed.

[Shashkov] Which of those is closest to you?

[Yeltsin] There are three candidacies closest to me. I am now choosing one of them.

[Shashkov] Is Rutskoy one of them?

[Yeltsin] I think that he now has the kind of office where it seems to me that raising this issue is not a very serious thing to do.

[Shashkov] He himself expressed the same thing.

[Yeltsin] Sometime, possibly, when he has carried out... when he has worked out his term as vice president—yes, perhaps he will transfer to other work; but now he has been elected with the president, by the people. Let him first report back to the people on his work as vice president.

Kozyrev Views Team Changes

LD1510215291 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 2000 GMT 15 Oct 91

[Text] Today a session of the State Council of Russia took place under the chairmanship of Boris Yeltsin. Specifically, in connection with the situation that has taken shape in the republic's government, consideration was given to fundamental proposals to improve the functions and structure of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] Council of Ministers. Our correspondent Yevgeniy Zherebenkov asked Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev to comment on the forthcoming changes in Yeltsin's team:

[Begin recording] [Kozyrev] Yes, consideration was given to questions connected with the further plan of action and how to reorganize the Council of Ministers and who will replace Silayev. After all, there is no Silayev, and the position of chairman of the Council of Ministers is vacant now, and so that question cannot, of course, fail to concern both the president and the State Council.

All these matters were discussed, but I think that there is one main thing: There is a feeling—I believe that Boris Nikolayevich will talk about it himself on television today—but I think that there is a feeling that the State Council and the Russian leadership have come to realize the need for radical, concrete reforms and measures that really would remedy the situation, even though they may at the outset be even rather hard and, as it were, costly; but I am sure that we all understand that we still have to go through a difficult period for some while longer, having before us clear and precise prospects for eventually attaining a normal, civilized economy.

A decision is due on economic reforms and, as I understood from the session of the State Council, from what Boris Nikolayevich and other members of the State Council said, that decision has been adopted in principle—to proceed, that is, along the path of radical reform—what the people, the people of the RSFSR, voted for when they cast their votes for Yeltsin. He had a clear program of radical reforms, and this is what the people of the RSFSR were championing when they defended the White House, the reform program.

And now the decision has been taken to translate all that into the language of concrete actions, and, consequently, a mechanism is also needed—that is, a Council of Ministers is needed, executives are also needed, people are needed who will put it all into effect, since, after all, as the father of the people said, personnel decide everything, and I think the president must recruit a capable team and examine each member once again, all of us, and select only those who will take on the responsibility and who, in his opinion, really will be able to put these measures into practice. I fully trust his choice and, without any offense, without any conceit, on the other hand, I rely on that direct choice as far as I am concerned personally.

[Zherebenkov] It is a question of a new team for Yeltsin.

[Kozyrev] I think it is a question of formulating the task of implementing the mandate that Yeltsin received at the elections, and it is a question of the need for a team that will carry it out. Maybe it will contain many of those who are already at work. I do not know. It is quite possible, and it would probably be logical, if they match up to the task. Maybe it will be a totally new team altogether. I think it is for the president and for whoever he selects as premier to decide.

[Zherebenkov] Has any specific candidate for premier been named?

[Kozyrev] Well, there are many candidates. The president must decide that. [end recording]

Call Issued for Early Reelection of Deputies

OW1110174691 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1520 GMT 11 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Oleg Rumyantsev, secretary of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] Constitution Commission, has said that the parliament's refusal to include a new Russian constitution in the agenda of the coming congress of RSFSR People's Deputies testifies to the fact that state power in the republic is in a critical condition. He said the federation continued to disintegrate, with some of its constituent structures raising riots and the parliament finding itself in confrontation with the president.

Mr. Rumyantsev said unless the parliament included the new constitution in the congress agenda, "the Russian Federation's collapse" would be inevitable. He called for the early reelection of Russia's corps of deputies in 1992.

O. Rumyantsev stressed the importance of the federal principle of future Russia's formation which his commission suggested instead of the ethnic-territorial principle.

Shumeiko Nominated Prime Minister Candidate

OW1110173691 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1520 GMT 11 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] At its conference on Thursday night the coordinating council of the parliamentary bloc Democratic Russia nominated its candidate for the post of Russia's prime minister: Vladimir Shumeiko, an MP [member of parliament] and deputy chairman of the parliamentary committee on economic reform and property.

Democratic Russia will recommend its candidate to the president of the Russian Federation.

Previously V. Shumeiko was head-manager of a plant assembling measuring instruments in Krasnodar. He is chairman of the Confederation of Russian Entrepreneurs and one of the authors of the bill on enterprises and entrepreneurship.

Mr. Shumeiko's candidacy is expected to be discussed on Monday at a general conference of the parliamentary bloc.

Saburov Criticizes Ministers in Yeltsin Letter

OW1210163791 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1430 GMT 12 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Yevgeniy Saburov, who announced his resignation from the post of chairman of the Russian Federation's Council of Ministers a few days ago, wrote in his letter to Boris Yeltsin that the current Council of Ministers, given its present powers and organization, is incapable of reformatory action".

"In my opinion," writes Yevgeniy Saburov, "instead of making constructive efforts, some of the Council of Ministers' members do work which is absolutely destructive. Group interests and personal likes and dislikes mean more than concern about economic development and ways of leading the nation out of the current tragic situation."

The Russian Federation's ex-minister for economy writes that he was particularly shocked by his colleagues' attitude to the Economic-Community Treaty which he had prepared for signing in Alma-Ata by the heads of state, on commission from the president of the Russian Federation.

Although the work done had been approved by Boris Yeltsin, "the Council of Ministers made desperate and juridically illegitimate steps to frustrate the signing of the treaty." A group of ministers, writes Yevgeniy Saburov, tried to review the treaty, "seriously worsening it in relation to Russia."

In his opinion, "The efforts to put monetary circulation under the tough control of a banking reserve system have been brought down to naught, while many provisions have been dimmed and turned to general declarations."

Mr. Saburov believes that by doing so, the Council of Ministers has abused its powers and made an inadmissible attempt to put pressure on the president.

"From the declaration of programmes and inner strife we shall pass over to specific actions," said Mr. Saburov, explaining his return to active political life.

Saburov Warns on Making Russia Legal Successor

OW1510154891 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1500 GMT 15 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Russia's Economics Minister Yevgeniy Saburov told a meeting of Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] parliamentarians in Moscow on Tuesday that making Russia the legal successor to the ex-Soviet Union is "an idea fraught with dangerous political and economic consequences." IF's [INTERFAX] correspondent reports the meeting was dedicated to the forthcoming conclusion of an interrepublican treaty of union.

This idea, Mr. Saburov said, has its proponents also within the RSFSR Government. But the government stand on the economic treaty had changed after President Boris Yeltsin announced his support for the treaty, Saburov noted.

Asked by IF's correspondent whether or not he would resign from his government post, Mr. Saburov said he would stay "only if President Yeltsin guarantees support for my projects and if reforms actually get under way."

The minister said, obviously referring to the expected presidential decree on the dissolution of the RSFSR Council of Ministers, that the situation would be clarified in a matter of days.

Commentary: Central Government Not in Control

PM1610152491 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 16 Oct 91 First Edition p 1

[Commentary by Yelena Tokareva: "Russia is Being Governed. But By Whom?"]

[Text] On the live Russian Television program "Unretouched" ["Bez Retushi"], Russian Secretary of State Gennadiy Burbulis admitted that there is a government crisis in our republic. In the public's mind, a government crisis is always associated with words like "anarchy" and "ungovernability." Is this true?

It may be said confidently that the arms of the republic's central government are rather short and cannot reach out from the center to govern the republic, even its nearby suburbs, let alone the remote outlying districts. The government cannot ensure the transition to the market

by way of the necessary reforms in the economy and politics. But in my opinion the government crisis is secondary in comparison with the crisis afflicting our state as a centralized system.

Russia is being governed. But not from the center. Are the provinces ignoring market reforms? And not giving land to private farmers? That is because, where this is happening, the local authorities do not want these reforms. After all, when you saw how the SCSE [State Committee for the State of Emergency] appeal for the imposition of order and a micro-state-of-emergency met with a response in remote little villages where they brandished a couple of wooden rifles kept on a stand in case of trouble, it immediately became obvious what kind of reforms would suit the local authorities. Did you say anarchy? But not so much as a single brick plant or a single neglected farmstead is now falling into the hands of people who do not suit the local authorities, so you cannot talk about anarchy in our motherland's vast expanses. You can only say that power has not changed—it is still the same and still belongs to the same people as throughout the 70 years of communist dictatorship.

There is a government crisis. No one in the top echelons of the Council of Ministers today knows what his own signature is worth. The Vneshekonombank [Bank for Foreign Economic Activity] ignores even Ivan Silayev's signature on requests such as "Pay the bearer on demand...."—on the pretext that there is nothing to pay him with, because they have no currency.

This is a crisis of the system that generated the sole entity responsible for all initiatives, major and minor, anywhere in our vast Motherland—the state. Private capital does not exist. Therefore the signatures of the former "all-Union headman" Nikolay Ryzhkov and the present one, Ivan Silayev, can be found on all kinds of bizarre documents whose triviality is unworthy of such great men.

In the meantime—while, in the absence of the man with the signature and of general directives on future finance strategy, the ratification of comparatively large-scale projects is at a standstill—economic life continues out there in the republic, and it continues in its own crazy way. In the past year Latvia has sold more timber abroad than Russia. Although, of course, this timber was not Latvia's. Lithuania sold the Urals Lithuanian meat raised on Russian grain, for hard currency, while the Urals thought it was buying Australian lamb and Swedish bacon. Local initiatives and the opportunity to trade in surpluses of oil, timber, and coal are not large-scale in nature, but they are patently of a nature that is disadvantageous to the regions that produce these things, an insulting nature. It is no accident that in the center, at the level of the top echelons of political power, two parties have emerged—the party of those who advocate establishing relations with the republics as if they were foreign states and will therefore oppose a treaty that is easygoing and protectionist with regard to the former outlying districts of the empire, and the other party, which upholds the common economic space and the treaty.

Meanwhile Moscow has accumulated a quantity of power structures, or rather, semipower structures, that would have been more than sufficient for all the provincial capitals. Here we have the two presidents' apparatuses; here we have, so to speak, the supreme economic council under Silayev's leadership; here we have the Supreme Soviet with its deputies who would do anything rather than go back where they came from; here we have the Council of Ministers with nobody at its head; and to crown it all there is the mysterious Moscow government which keeps an ever vigilant eye on the housing stock, and the uninhabitable stock, too.

All these authorities are infinitely weakened by the division of political and economic powers, weakened by the fact that they share spheres of influence in Moscow, which is big, but not big enough for such a mass of administrators. They squabble, they scurry around. And Russia goes on living in the same old way—not enough rubber boots for the milkmaids, the last 5 km of road to the central farmstead left unasphalted so that the bosses can never get there because of the mud. And the eternal cynicism of the provincial dweller who believes in no authorities except the local ones.

How do local people conceive of central government? They see it first and foremost through investments. In the language of local authorities at all levels, including the level of provincial capitals, "governing" means assigning money and allocations for programs. And that means sufficient money so that there is enough left over to build a dacha for your son and maybe a few more things that are not in the program. That is what "governing" means. If the center does not have the money or supplies to implement its policy, if there are only demands for the fulfillment of political declarations, then this situation, in the language of the provinces, is called "bad government."

True, there is another way of leading Russia from the center, and very successfully at that. From a position of strength, through the imposition of a state of emergency, as the "esteemed" putschists tried to do. Russian President Yeltsin despised this method, although for a whole week after the putsch local authorities at all levels were waiting for terrible reprisals against the admirers of the aforementioned committee. They were also waiting for the development of the institution of plenipotentiary representatives of the center, ready, at the slightest attempt by the local authorities to resist the center's progressive policy, to pull a black revolver out of the leg of their broad pants. They were waiting for the setting up of special courts and the appointment of special judges and prosecutors to decide on cases of sabotaging land reform. But none of this happened. And now the reform is marking time, because no one in the provinces wants it.

Basically Mr. Stolypin [prerevolutionary Russian prime minister] implemented his radical land reform by far tougher methods than Yeltsin—he had volost [district] courts, and model farms in every region. Stick and carrot. But no, let us put it more simply—Stolypin implemented his reform. But our reformers are not implementing theirs. The sphere of political interests of the power structures concentrated in Moscow is Moscow values, not Tambov values. The reforms are not being implemented, and the country is simply not being governed by the center, because the center is bored with it.

No, there is no anarchy. Wine cellars are not being plundered, CPSU Central Committee housing stock is being grabbed eagerly, and there is a waiting line for the privatization of nasty little basements—everything that is capable of bearing fruit and making a profit has its owner. No, there is no anarchy, there is petty power, the same as before, but run slightly wild, without its former magnificence. There is the desire to do good first of all to yourself and your family, and only then, if you can, for your own home territory. That has always been the desire of petty officials who have not tasted power on the grand scale. There is a shortage of fine, rich statesmen who would put Russia's good before their own.

Former CPSU Aide on Fate of Officials

PM1110163991 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 5 Oct 91 p 2

[Interview with V.A. Kuptsov, member of the Russian Communist Party Central Committee and chief of the Department for Liaison With Political Parties and Movements, by Mikhail Tarasov in Moscow under "At Readers' Request" rubric; date not given: "Where is the Central Commtitee Operating?"]

[Text] "What kind of jobs have former members of the Russian Communist Party [RCP] Central Committee apparatus found?" ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA readers ask in their letters.

I wanted to know too—so I went to the Central Committee building near Staraya Ploshchad, on Kuybyshev Street. Empty corridors.... Stillness.... The only people working there are the commissions set up in conjunction with the Russian president's administration: on employment, ownership questions, legal protection for party members. I was received by Valentin Aleksandrovich Kuptsov, chief of the Department for Liaison With Political Parties and Movements and member of the RCP Central Committee, who had spent only seven days in the job.

"I will gladly answer your question," he said. "But first the general situation. Communist Party activities have been suspended. We are not engaged in political activity as a political organization. But I do not think anyone can give a sensible answer to the question what the suspension means from a juridical viewpoint.

"Accounts are frozen, offices are sealed, property is being nationalized.... We have to find work for 165,000 people. They include not only party officials but everyone connected with the CPSU structure—workers, technical personnel, teachers, and others. Jobs have been found for half of them, but time is short. Our commission is authorized to operate until 10 November.

"But the further you go the more complex things become. Some people have totally lost touch with the production or scientific spheres. Moscow has a special problem: a large managerial structure. It brings more problems. In fact, we are cutting the actual apparatus by 90 percent...."

[Tarasov] So you intend to get the party operating again.... When?

[Kuptsov] There is nothing that says how long the "suspension" is for. An investigation is taking place at the moment, the degree of the Communist Party's responsibility for the August events is being ascertained. I am sure the court will decide that the RCP was not involved in them. Our activities will then resume.

Incidentally, party property is currently being seized, but why not wait for the court's verdict? The presidential decree and the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] Supreme Soviet resolution only talk about the temporary transfer of property. Property can only be transferred to someone by the court. The court will probably sit by the end of the year.

Now, the Central Committee apparatus. Polozkov has been on leave. An order was signed two weeks or so ago making him a member of the USSR Food Commission. There are Central Committee secretaries—Ilin, Zyuganov, Sokolov, Kashin, Melnikov and I—on the commissions on employment, finance, property, and so on.

Antonovich and Silkova are helping us on a voluntary basis. They are fixed up with jobs—one in an institute, the other in industry.

N. Stolyarov, former chairman of the Central Control Commission, is now KGB Chairman Bakatin's deputy.

Of the 300 people in the central apparatus 61 have found work in their old specialty.

[Tarasov] What do you intend to do about your own future?

[Kuptsov] To be frank, I do not know. I will not and cannot think about it at least until 10 November, until the others are fixed up. Then I will be faced with the same problems as all the others.

That's about it. But I cannot leave it there. Imagine that the court has established that the Communist Party was not involved in the putsch. Then it resumes its life as if nothing had happened, along with the other parties. It is completely vindicated.

But it is like trying a thief for a traffic violation. There has to be a trial, but of the party as a criminal organization. It is not people who must be tried, for God's sake, but the party, for, among other things, the coup in 1917, the dissolution of the Constituent Assembly, the destruction of all other parties.

Tried for a crime against the people, for mass terror, for the creation of a system of concentration camps. Only a court ban on CPSU activities can make the nationalization of its property legal beyond question. Otherwise, new owners of party property, you can expect to receive summonses next year!

Burbulis Briefs Lawmakers on Economic Reforms

OW1510195791 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1630 GMT 15 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] State Secretary Gennadiy Burbulis met with republican parliamentarians on Tuesday telling them that "the next few days are expected to yield agreement on such a composition of Russia's new government that would be capable of seeing through a set of vital, even if unpopular, economic reforms."

Mr. Burbulis said the Russian Federation would endorse the interrepublican economic treaty on Friday, and within a month thereafter it would work out 17 separate agreements on various projects of economic cooperation with the other republics.

Commenting on the draft political treaty, the state secretary said "the most involved and important question is still there: whether or not it is expedient to set up a new union as a single constitutional state." He said the Russian Federation would support the process of interrepublican negotiations but would like to work out a clearer stand on the cooperation proposals addressed directly to it.

State Counsel Sergey Shakhrai, who took part in the Tuesday briefing, said two months after the national parliament ruled to scrap the former Union structures, Russia would stop funding the new government bodies set up without its participation.

Political Observer Criticizes 'Dual Management'

PM1110122391 Moscow ROSSIYSKAYA GAZETA in Russian 10 Oct 91 First Edition p 1

[Commentary by political observer Vladimir Kuznechevskiy "Commentary": "Another Lasso for the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic?"]

[Text] The USSR president has issued a decree on the formation of a Union committee on the land reform. The question is: Where will this land reform take place? In what kind of Soviet Union? In which republics? By all accounts, since the August events people in Kiev, Bishkek, Minsk, and Tashkent are hardly going to pay heed either to the committee's recommendations or to USSR presidential decrees issued on the basis of the committee's work. The proclamation of the 12-republic Economic Community in Alma-Ata 1 October showed graphically that even the Central Asian republics and Azerbaijan, which are powerfully drawn toward the administrative solution of problems at government level, expect from Moscow not recommendations on the implementation of reforms but material and technical supply and financial injections.

Conditions in the republics, including economic relations, traditions of land use, way of life, and the national mentality of rural people, are so varied that the elaboration in Moscow of general recommendations on the land reform for all republics is no longer possible. In that case, for whom has Gorbachev created the committee? For Russia alone, it turns out. But the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] already has its own State Committee on the Land Reform and corresponding parliamentary committee. Thus we are dealing with a parallel structure and parallel financing.

There is more. The USSR president has created a political consultative council, announced his intention to create a security council, and will soon issue a decree on the formation of an enterprise council. The sphere of operation of all these USSR presidential organizational structures is Russia again, the personnel come mainly from Moscow, so in effect they are representatives of the RSFSR.

Will the decisions that are being adopted or prepared in those organs have any effect on the course of life in other republics apart from Russia? Probably not. The Ukraine, for example, without undue hesitation or consultation with the presidential structures, took under its jurisdiction the Armed Forces stationed on its territory and scrapped the KGB. Belorussia recently adopted a decision to relax customs controls on the movement of goods on its western border and transferred the customs services themselves to the border of Smolensk Oblast. It, too, acted quite autonomously. Such relations with the center are becoming the norm for all the former Union republics, as is the sharp reduction of financial contributions from them to the center.

A highly curious situation is shaping up and it affects the RSFSR above all. What is essentially a second system for the management of the republic's affairs is being formed on its territory, parallel to the legitimate one elected by the Russian population. It cannot influence anyone except Russia, it is financed mainly from Russian sources, and is already introducing quite considerable confusion into the management of the republic's affairs. The tendency toward the inflation of these structures, which are non-Russian but which have placed themselves above the RSFSR presidential structures, is patently obvious.

From the economic viewpoint, and not only the economic viewpoint, the situation which has come about is also being aggravated for Russia by the fact that since the August victory on the barricades in front of the White House each Union republic individually has announced its ownership of all Union property and real estate on its territory at that moment. But when the RSFSR, following exactly the same logic, nationalized the Union real estate on its territory there appeared the now famous letter from I. Silayev saying that everything that Russia had taken should be returned to Union ownership. To the question of what exactly Union ownership is in the new conditions if all the other republics have already nationalized what was their own property and also what was not their own has not been answered. Thus in this instance it can only be a case of again making ownership subordinate to the center in the form of the USSR president and the Interrepublic Economic Committee created under him and headed by Silayev, Yavlinskiy, and Volskiy. In fact we are dealing with serious attempts to remove everything possible from Russia's hands so as to increase the might of the center in the form of the USSR president and his structures, which today cannot lay claim to anything except interference in the management of Russia.

Here, properly speaking, in our view, lies to a considerable extent the answer the question of why, after the August victory, Yeltsin suddenly put the brake on the reforms in September. In September the old, dual management of Russia (two parliaments, two presidents, and so forth) again began gaining strength. It is obvious that Yeltsin alone cannot cope with the solution of this problem without the Russian parliament's support.

The outward impression being created that all this is happening with Yeltsin's tacit consent is superficial. The accusation that the Russian president is keeping silent and has slowed down the reforms because he has no program is, at best, due to a failure to understand the situation. I think that it is all far more complex. Beginning at the end of August Yeltsin's reformist policy encountered resistance from a powerful united front of forces which, although different in essence, are now operating in the same direction—criticism of the reformist activity of the Russian president. First and foremost, they are a quite significant section of Russian parliamentarians, leftwing radicals in Russia, the Ukraine, Kazakhstan, and other republics, and some mass media. On their side is the USSR president who outwardly, although only outwardly, supports Yeltsin at the level of publicizing his consultations with the Russian president, lending him staffers of the "Alfa" antiterrorist organization as a bodyguard, and so forth. While in fact—by reinforcing his own structures—he is restricting Yeltsin's freedom of operation. We have already written about the main cause of the formation of this united front: Everyone fears a strong Russia, especially headed by a powerful individual.

One way or another they are trying, wittingly or not, to drive the Russian president into a corner and make him manageable. It is also obvious that it is necessary to get out of this situation. And it is clearly necessary to begin from the simplest point—mutual relations with the Union president.

I personally have no doubts that in the present situation it is necessary to preserve the post of USSR President and to retain Gorbachev personally in that post. Just as I have no doubt that for the sake of Russia's present and future it is necessary to strengthen the union between Yeltsin and Gorbachev today. However, this should not be to the detriment of Yeltsin's reformist activity and the RSFSR's economic might. Friendship is one thing, as they say, but business is another. That also applies to the cost of maintaining the USSR president. It should be borne by all those republics which agree to sign the Union treaty on terms of parity. No one state can permit itself the luxury of maintaining two parallel structures, especially not in conditions of crisis.

Local Affairs

Session Recognizes Chechen-Ingush Ousted Body

PM1110133191 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 9 Oct 91 p 1

[Report by A. Khokhlov: "In Search of Those To Whom Power Belongs"]

[Text] There is crisis again in Chechen-Ingushetia. On 6 October the executive committee of the National Congress of the Chechen People announced the dissolution of the Provisional Higher Council [Vysshiy Sovet]—the organ which replaced the forcibly ousted republic Supreme Soviet. In the opinion of L. Usmanov, presidium member of the executive committee of the National Congress of the Chechen People, "the political situation in the republic remains complex, but it is being monitored by the National Congress of the Chechen People."

"I think," he said, "that it has become calmer in Groznyy since we dissolved the Provisional Higher Council, which had destabilized the situation in the republic. Numerous rallies are now being held in Groznyy. The activity of the KGB has been suspended. The Internal Affairs Ministry is going about its business—catching criminals. Since the self-determination of the Ingush people, who declared the creation of an independent republic, the decision to create a Chechen republic has been made."

In Moscow the situation is seen somewhat differently:

"Unfortunately, the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] parliament did not make timely correct assessments of the situation that was developing in Chechen-Ingushetia," said N. Medvedev, chairman of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet Commission on the

National-State System and Interethnic Relations. "Some Russian leaders were generous with advance promises which did not pan out."

"Whom does power in Chechen-Ingushetia belong to today?"

"It remains with the Provisional Higher Council. At any rate the RSFSR parliament regards it as legitimate and conducts talks with it alone. The Chechen-Ingush Republic Council of Ministers is functioning, too. It has demanded that the executive committee of the National Congress of the Chechen People immediately disband illegal armed formations and carry out the Constitution and laws of the republic."

Yesterday the situation in Chechen-Ingushetia was examined at a session of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet Presidium.

Russian Vice President A. Rutskoy delivered a report. The RSFSR Supreme Soviet Presidium confirmed once again that the Provisional Higher Council is the sole constitutional organ of power in Chechen-Ingushetia. The leaders of the illegal armed formations are ordered to surrender all their weapons to the Chechen-Ingush republic Internal Affairs Ministry by 2400 hours, 9 October.

N. Ossetia Troops on Alert Against Claims

PM1110151991 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 11 Oct 91 Union Edition p 1

[Report from IZVESTIYA, TASS, RIA, POSTFACTUM, AFP, REUTER roundup: "North Ossetia Intends To Defend Itself From Possible Chechen-Ingush Territorial Claims"]

[Text] "North Ossetia Intends To Defend Itself From Possible Chechen-Ingush Territorial Claims," Militia Major General Georgiy Kantemirov, North Ossetian minister of internal affairs, has stated. He said that Internal Troops, militia, and OMON [special purpose militia detachment] subunits subordinate to him are on combat readiness status. This has been brought about by appeals coming out of neighboring Chechen-Ingushetia that North Ossetia's Prigorodnyy Rayon and part of the city of Vladikavkaz be joined to the republic.

Suburbs Increase Defenses

OW1110220991 Moscow INTERFAX in English 2010 GMT 11 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] According to information from Vladikavkaz, the situation in the capitol of North Ossetia has become strained. "KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA" has received information from the republican Ministry of the Interior that on the 12th or 13th of October, Ingushian revolutionaries from the neighboring territory of Chechen-Ingush plan to attack with the goal of seizing the suburban region and parts of the city of Vladikavkaz.

In Groznyy, at the third congress of the Ingushi people, the Ingushi People's Soviet decided to demand the return of its lands which were taken from the Ingushi in 1944 and given to North Ossetia.

An "INTERFAX" [IF] correspondent reports that the streets are being patrolled by police and students from the Interior Ministry's training school.

According to unsubstantiated information, in the suburbs armed detachments are still being formed.

The deputy minister for internal affairs in the republic, Soslan Sikoyev, does not think that it is necessary for the people to form such defensive organizations. In an interview with a correspondent from "IF" he said that if the threat of "aggression" is realized, to defend the republic's population, "the entire powers of the Ministry of the Interior, regardless of nationality and position," would be called into action.

Our correspondent reports that Thursday [10 October] evening a column of armored personnel carriers moved through Vladikavkaz in the direction of the suburbs. Aerial surveillance of the region, as well as of Vladikavkaz, also started on Thursday.

Mayor Sobchak Sees 'Vacuum' in Political Life

LD1110105291 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2125 GMT 10 Oct 91

[By TASS correspondent Aleksandr Semenov]

[Text] Frankfurt-am-Main, 10 Oct (TASS)— A certain amount of vacuum has evolved in the political life of the Soviet Union after the disintegration of the old structures. There does not exist a single political movement or a party of all-Union significance today. This was stated here today at a news conference by Anatoliy Sobchak, mayor of St. Petersburg. It took place for the presentation of his book *Coming To Power* which has been published by the German publisher "Gustav Lubbe Verlag" under the title of "For a New Russia" within the framework of an international book auction.

The movements in the republics, unfortunately, are of a serious nationalistic hue, the mayor of St. Petersburg noted. Very frequently basic democratic principles, for example—the principles of the priority of human rights, "fade into the background in these movements in the face of national, regional, or even clan interests."

The Movement for Democratic Reforms [MDR] in the Soviet Union is not a party. Its objective is to unite all the democratic forces in the center and the national democratic movements in the republics. The success of our reforms will depend on how successful this amalgamation of democratic forces proves to be, the mayor of St. Petersburg noted.

A. Sobchak rejected accusations that the MDR will be a kind of "reborn and revamped Communist Party." "No matter how you look at it," he said, "you will not see Communists in us."

The Soviet politician was opposed to the persecution of Communists, stating that he is an opponent of anticommunism. In our country this phenomenon is adopting the very same forms of intolerance and struggle for destruction as were attributed to the Communists themselves, he said. However, to try and organize a struggle against 20 million people, many of whom formally stood in the ranks of the party, would mean unleashing a civil war. All kinds of bans and persecutions, he believes, can only force the CPSU to go underground and embark on the path of active struggle. This could be the ruin of the still young democracy in our country.

Touching upon the prospects for the development of the political processes in the Central Asian republics, Sobchak noted that the combination of "communism, Islam, and democracy" will soon be characteristic of them. As a result of a long, tortuous, and complex process of formation we might see a kind of symbiosis which will be close to our concepts of democracy and human rights, but will never be the same as them, he pointed out.

Replying to a question about the creation of settlements and farmers' holdings for Soviet Germans in the region of St. Petersburg, Sobchak stressed that this proposal meets with support in principle in the Russian Government. If they do not come to us then they will move to Germany, he said. They will not remain in Central Asia as they fear Islamicization. It is politically and economically disadvantageous for both Russia and Germany for Soviet Germans to emigrate to the FRG.

Touching on the problem of former GDR leader Erich Honecker, the mayor of St. Petersburg said that as a lawyer he "was always struck by the senselessness of the violation of laws" in the USSR. At one time, by decision of the Politburo of the CPSU Central Committee, Sakharov was sent into administrative exile in Gorkiy even though no such measure of punishment exists in Soviet legislation. It is the same thing with Honecker. I have not heard about anyone formally giving him political asylum or about all this having any formal juridical bases at all. I am a member of the USSR Supreme Soviet but I know this only from the newspapers. The government has given no intelligible answers to all the questions from the members of the Supreme Soviet. At one time they even denied that he was in the USSR. In my view, Sobchak noted, it is a quite senseless undertaking to give political asylum to people such as Honecker, just as it is, by the way, to put such people on trial."

Democratic Coalition Founded in Moscow

OW1110140491 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1145 GMT 11 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] A Democratic Coalition of Moscow (DCM) was founded on Thursday [10 October] night at a conference of Moscow branches of pro-democracy political organisations. The conference was attended by activists of the Democratic Party of Russia, the Constitutional Democratic Party (People's Freedom Party), the Republican Party of the Russian Federation, the Russian Christian Democratic Movement, the Social Democratic Party of Russia, and the Moscow Association Democratic Russia.

The conference adopted a declaration saying that the DCM regards "high moral standards in politics priority." The coalition will work against "bureaucratic malpractices in privatization," and press for a "sensible personnel policy" that would rule out the appointment of corrupt bureaucrats to leading posts in the new structures. The DCM means to establish itself as "the constructive opposition" and invites all like-minded parties and movements to cooperate with it.

One of the DCM co-founders, Vladimir Stolypin, who is a leading member of the Moscow chapter of Democratic Russia, commented: "What we have always had in common is distaste for the voluntarist policy of the Mayor's Office whose actions and decisions have often become known to Muscovites and even members of the Moscow City Council one day after they were taken. We intend to set up without delay a supervising commission attached to the city council to control mayoral performance."

Parties Declare 7 Nov Day of Mourning

LD1510103691 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 0720 GMT 15 Oct 91

[Text] Moscow, 15 Oct (TASS)—The Moscow organizations of the Democratic Party of Russia and of the Russian Christian-Democratic Movement have asked the Moscow authorities to declare 7 November as a day of mourning, NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA reports today. They want to stage a protest on the anniversary of the October Revolution beginning with a requiem at the Solovetskiy stone [monument to victims of repression] on Lubyanka Square, followed by a procession to the former site of the Church of Christ the Savior in Moscow for prayers. On the same day representatives of the two parties plan to hold another protest in which they will "symbolically commit Vladimir Lenin, the leader of world communism, to the earth." A NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA correspondent was told that "for the time being they are only going to bury a bust of Ulyanov, not his actual body."

Soviet Germans Demand Decision From Yeltsin

OW1110224091 Moscow INTERFAX in English 2010 GMT 11 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] On the eve of the second part of the congress of Soviet Germans, at a press conference in Moscow on

Friday [11 October], one of the leaders of the German society "Revival," Heinrich Grout, accused the present Russian leadership, including President Yeltsin, of having an ambiguous position towards the question of establishing a republic of Volga Germans. This line, in Grout's words, has been actively pursued recently by members of the Union of Soviet Germans.

The leadership of the "Revival" society is demanding from the Russian president that he make a normative act at the congress on the establishment of a republic of Volgan Germans on the basis of the statement on the rehabilitation of repressed nationalities.

As Grout has remarked, the Union Germans of the USSR, who are competing with "Revival" Germans, will be satisfied with nothing less than a binding political statement from the Russian president. Grout noted that if "Revival's" position is not accepted at the congress of Soviet Germans, then this organization will concentrate its efforts on the emigration of Soviet Germans.

St. Petersburg Wants Military Chief Replaced

OW1110200891 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1730 GMT 11 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] In St. Petersburg, the city council's special commission investigating the government coup attempt in the Soviet Union has called for replacing General Yiktor Samsonov, the commander of the Leningrad Military District. The city council also wants the appointment of new managers of the local television and radio company and Lenizdat Publishers.

In a message President Gorbachev and Defence Minister Shaposhnikov the city council recommends to dismiss General Samsonov.

At the same time, the commission said that no documentary evidence had been found so far pointing to the complicity of the Leningrad Communist Party in support for the coup attempt.

Tatarstan Republic Fights for Independence

Home Guard Detachment Formed

PM1110100391 Moscow SOVETSKAYA ROSSIYA in Russian 8 Oct 91 p 2

[Report by M. Zaripov: "Home Guard Being Formed in Tatarstan"]

[Text] Following a speech made to Union deputies by R. Khasbulatov, acting chairman of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] Supreme Soviet, who stated that Russia will not tolerate any form of national sovereignty on its territory, neither Tatar, nor Checheno-Ingush, the names of volunteers for a home guard detachment are now being registered at the headquarters of the All-Union Tatar Social Center in Kazan.

The home guard is being formed on a voluntary basis, independently of the local organs of power, and it sees its main task as the protection of the republic's sovereignty. The home guard staff, which is led by retired Colonel R. Safin, one of the leaders of the Tatar Social Center, sees its aims as the protection of the rights of the republic's citizens, observance of order during mass political measures, provision for the transfer of Union and Russian enterprises to the republic's jurisdiction, and the defense of the republic's independence and autonomy against encroachments from outside, particularly on the part of the Russian parliament and government.

Talks on Relations Postponed

OW1110165091 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1520 GMT 11 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] As IF's [INTERFAX's] reporter has learned from Ramazan Abdulatipov, head of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] Supreme Soviet's Council of Nationalities, the talks announced for Friday [11 October] between the RSFSR State Secretary Gennady Burbulis and the Vice President of Tatarstan have been delayed till next week because of Mr. Burbulis's departure for Yekaterinburg (formerly Sverdlovsk).

The talks were expected to yield a protocol defining the principles of future relations between Russia and Tatarstan.

Movement Calls For Secession

OW1610004191 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1915 GMT 15 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Nationalist Movement of Tatarstan (NMT), in which the Tatar Public Center (TPC) plays the lead, has called for the republic's independence and secession from the Russian Federation. On Tuesday, NMT activists staged a rally in Kazan's Liberty Square outside the building where the Tatarstan Supreme Soviet is holding its seventh session.

IF's [INTERFAX] correspondent reports the same square is the venue of another rally, held by pro-democracy activists demanding the resignation of President Mintimer Shaimiyev. The TPC and the AZATLYK [youth organization] society have made attempts to provoke clashes with Democratic Party members. One of the latter, Sharipov, said TPC activists had attacked a column of pro-democracy demonstrators and torn up several Russian flags.

Russian Guard Coalition Meets in Yekaterinburg

OW1110194491 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1730 GMT 11 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] On October 11, in Yekaterinburg, the public association "For the Russian Guard" gathered for its constituent conference. The new public movement's initiators are the Yekaterinburg branch of the union "The Shield" and volunteers who have joined the Russian National Guard. The association was set up to build up support for Russian national armed forces.

Mr. Andrey Snigiryov who is head of the Shield's Sverdlovsk branch said that to date, in Yekaterinburg, about 250 volunteers had signed up to the Russian Guard. Most of them are ex-servicemen and members of private investigation agencies.

Media Affairs

DEN Decides To Fight Ban Order in Court

PM1110110391 Moscow PRAVDA in Russian 8 Oct 91 p 2

[Report by M. Yelmanova: "Perhaps the Court Will Help?"]

[Text] Editorial staff from the DEN newspaper picketed the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic Ministry of the Press and the Mass Media building 3 October—PRAVDA has already reported on this. We recall that the ministry is refusing to register DEN, citing the fact that the newspaper was involved in the ideological preparations for the putsch.

The editorial office disagrees with this accusation.

For its part, the newspaper's editorial office has complaints about the ministry—particularly Deputy Minister M. Fedotov. He advised the editorial office to dump the newspaper's former sponsor—the USSR Writers' Union—promising to register the newspaper within two days. However, he failed to keep his promise. Now the newspaper is being accused of unlawful activities.

The DEN collective has decided to go to court.

International Affairs

Official Rejects Estonian Border Claims

OW1110120691 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1130 GMT 11 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Fiodor Shelov-Kovediayev who leads the Russian parliament's subcommission on interrepublican relations arrived in Tallinn on Thursday. Authorized to "present the stand of Russia's President Boris Yeltsin", he told reporters that the treaty signed between Estonia and Russia in January 1991 does not mention Estonia's territorial claims to Russia. "The treaty guarantees territorial integrity for each side", said F. Shelov-Kovediayev. "The disputed territories in Pskov region are inherently Russian in historic, cultural and religious terms".

According to him, if this problem aggravates, it can be resolved by means of holding a referendum among those who live in these territories.

In 1945 part of the land which belonged to Estonia since 1920 was transferred to Leningrad and Pskov regions in Russia by the Soviet leadership.

Anatoliy Montalovskiy, chairman of the Pechora City Council, told reporters in Tallinn on Thursday that "with its territorial claims Estonia aggravates tensions in Pechora region".

According to him, the borderline should remain unchanged. His city council decided to conduct a poll on the territorial issue among those who populate Pechora region. A. Montalovskiy says that city council officials went to Moscow to "ensure support from the Russian parliament".

The residents of Pechora region, said A. Montalovskiy, "are ready to protect themselves". According to him, some of them already call for blocking the railway tracks leading to Estonia.

U.S. Proposal of Joint Space Defense Examined

LD1610092691 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 2250 GMT 15 Sep 91

[By TASS correspondent Aleksey Golyayev]

[Text] Rome, 16 Oct—The United States is proposing that the Soviet Union take part in the development of a nonnuclear system of antimissile defense based in space, in the air, and on the ground. The implementation of this plan would be in the interests not only of all the peoples of the USSR, but also the world as a whole. This was stated by V. Shlykov, deputy chairman of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] Defense Committee, at an international symposium in the Italian town of Rimini organized by the Pio Mansu Center.

Despite the assurances of the central Soviet authorities about the reliability of control over nuclear weapons in the USSR, he said in an interview with the TASS correspondent, people in the West sometimes express anxiety at the true state of affairs in this area, which was particularly striking in the days following the attempted coup in Moscow. Just as we are, the West is striving to keep this threat to a minimum.

On the question of control in the USSR over nuclear weapons, I personally am basing what I say on the official statements that this control is reliable. However, judging by all accounts, V. Shlykov said, the world is not entirely satisfied with these statements. A degree of anxiety is caused, for example, by the standpoint of

Ukraine and Kazakhstan which, insofar as one can judge from the press, intend to keep the nuclear bases on their territory and to have only representatives of these republics serving there.

Of course, all these issues have to be seriously assessed before any conclusions are drawn, the RSFSR representative said. This is a very serious problem which troubles not only the peoples of the USSR, but of the whole world. The Americans, for example, think that it will not in the least promote stabilization on the international scene if missiles, some of which are targeted on the United States, are to be deployed in various Soviet republics among which relations have yet to be finally determined. This is exactly why, V. Shlykov said, they are suggesting that the USSR and all the Soviet republics, regardless of which of them signs the new Union treaty, take part in developing a nonnuclear antimissile defense system. I think it is a very interesting proposal.

Japan's Foreign Minister Continues Talks

Official Views Negotiations

OW1410211291 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1345 GMT 14 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Oleg Rumyantsev, executive secretary of the RSFSR [Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic] Constitution Commission and leader of Russia's Social Democratic Party, has issued a statement for the press saying that "It is still unclear who authorized certain officials... to conduct on behalf of the RSFSR such negotiations the results of which are questionable from the viewpoint of Russia's national interests." The statement follows the conclusion on Saturday [12 October] of the Moscow talks between the acting chairman of the RSFSR Supreme Soviet Ruslan Khasbulatov and the Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama.

Mr. Rumyantsev stressed the point that under the RSFSR Constitution the Russian Federation's foreign policy shall be decided exclusively by the Congress of RSFSR People's Deputies. However, "neither the Congress nor the Supreme Soviet have taken any decisions authorizing any kind of promises to Japan."

According to O. Rumyantsev, political and legal analysis shows that the Soviet-Japanese territorial dispute concerns the islands of Habomai and Shikotan only. The islands of Iturup and Kunashir, he argues, cannot possibly belong to Japan, which follows from a number of international legal acts, among them the 1945 Potsdam Declaration and the 1951 San-Francisco Treaty.

While Mr. Nakayama is still in the USSR, Mr. Rumyantsev believes it is essential that the dispute be urgently discussed in parliament in the presence of members of the RSFSR Government, Interior Ministry officials, leaders of various political parties, and also top administrators and public activists from Sakhalin and the southern Kuril Islands.

Kozyrev Begins Discussions

LD1510162691 Moscow TASS in English 1611 GMT 15 Oct 91

[Text] Moscow October 15 TASS—The first round of negotiations between Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev and his Japanese counterpart Taro Nakayama began today. The sides plan to discuss political and economic aspects of Russo-Japanese relations.

TASS learned from the sources in the Russian Foreign Ministry that the ministers will possibly discuss the use in Russia's interests of part of the 2.5 billion dollar aid that Japan granted to the USSR.

The negotiations will continue tomorrow.

Yeltsin Greets Nakayama

LD1510164391 Moscow Radio Rossii Network in Russian 1600 GMT 15 Oct 91

[Text] TASS diplomatic correspondents report that Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] President Boris Yeltsin and Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama, who is visiting Moscow, are currently meeting. I welcome you to the Russian White House, which went through quite dramatic events on 19-20 August, the Russian president told the head of Japan's foreign political department. We thought that it would rather become famous for very radical reforms in policy, the economy, the social sphere, interethnic relations, and so on; however, it has become famous precisely for struggle against the putschists.

Preparations Reviewed for Treaty

OW1510213791 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1915 GMT 15 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] During his meeting in Moscow on Tuesday [15 October] with the Japanese Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama, Boris Yeltsin reaffirmed his commitment to the earlier advanced plan under which the Soviet-Japanese territorial dispute should be settled in five stages. At the same time, Mr. Yeltsin said it was the demand of the times to speed up that process and accomplish it by the turn of the century, rather than within the next 20 years as suggested initially.

Mr. Nakayama welcomed Mr. Yeltsin's settlement plan. He told journalists later that he and the Russian leader had discussed measures to accelerate the implementation of this plan and sign a bilateral peace treaty at an early date.

According to B. Yeltsin, the parties had also discussed preparations for signing a peace treaty between the

USSR and Japan. Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev told journalists that Mr. Nakayama had brought along Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu's personal invitation for Mr. Yeltsin to pay an official visit to Japan.

Dispute Continues With Japan Over Kurils

More on Baburin's Comments

LD1310100691 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1501 GMT 12 Oct 91

[By TASS correspondent Yevgeniy Belovitskiy]

[Text] Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk, 12 Oct (TASS)—"There is no Northern Territories problem. There is the Kuril Islands problem—the need for them to be revived economically, socially, and culturally by Russia's manpower and the islanders themselves." This was stated today by Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] Supreme Soviet Deputy Sergey Baburin while addressing a news conference dedicated to the result of his visit to the southern Kurils, which are claimed by Japan.

"The information which we received in Moscow, that the Kuril islanders are eager for the islands to be handed over to Japan, is not correct," Sergey Baburin said. "It is true that some people have become disillusioned, tired. They want to obtain solid material compensation. It has to be realized, however, that nowhere in the Union or Russia today will there be manna from heaven."

The Russian parliamentarian stressed that "given the criminal destruction of our state, the border question could become the spark causing the powderkeg to explode. That is precisely why we feel that the status quo of the Kuril Islands should be preserved and that it should be officially enshrined at all levels of the juridical pyramid."

Rumyantsev on 'Slow Hand Over'

LD1410060891 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1928 GMT 13 Oct 91

[Text] Moscow, 13 Oct (TASS)—Oleg Rumyantsev, leader of the Russian Social Democratic Party, senior secretary of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic [RSFSR] Constitutional Commission and a Russian people's deputy, has issued a statement in which he says that "of late the process of preparing public opinion in Russia for the 'slow hand over' of several islands in the southern Kurils to Japanese sovereignty has intensified." These islands are part of Sakhalin Oblast in the RSFSR.

The text of the statement, which was supplied officially to TASS, says that "this time those at the forefront of these activities are not all-Union politicans and civil servants, but Russian ones. Clearly Tokyo is not disguising its optimism in connection with the possible results of the six-day visit to the RSFSR by Foreign Minister Taro Nakayama."

In the statement Oleg Rumyantsev suggests "having urgent hearings in parliament on this issue, and not after but during Taro Nakayama's visit. These should involve the leaders of the RSFSR, officials from the RSFSR Foreign Ministry, the leaders of political parties, the leaders of Sakhalin Oblast, and representatives of RSFSR citizens living in the territories in question."

Deputies Urge Special Economic Status

LD1410211291 Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak Network in Russian 1630 GMT 14 Oct 91

[Text] Sakhalin Oblast Soviet Chairman Anatoliy (?Aksenov) has stated the need for the status of border zone to be returned to Sakhalin Oblast, RUSSIAN INFORMATION AGENCY reports. In his words, this will make it possible to solve many problems relating to transport, supplies, and housing. He stated this at a news conference held in Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk.

Russian people's deputies and members of the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic Supreme Soviet, Sergey Baburin and Nikolay Pavlov, believe that Sakhalin Oblast should be given special economic status and that part of the fish caught should remain at the disposal of Kuril residents. They backed Valentin Fedorov's initiative on setting up a special economic zone on the basis of the southern Kurils and part of the Japanese island of Hokkaido.

Sakhalin Official Blames Japan

OW1610003391 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1915 GMT 15 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The chairman of the Sakhalin Regional Council, Anatoliy Aksyonov, said in Yuzhno-Sakhalinsk today that it was mainly Japan that was to blame for what was going on in Sakhalin and other Kuril Islands. Now as during the preparations for the Soviet President's visit to Tokyo last spring, he said, sensational reports to the effect that the Kurils issue had practically been settled first appeared in the Japanese press.

Mr. Aksyonov thinks that, far from helping to solve this extremely serious problem, this practice serves to aggravate it even further.

Negotiations with Japan should be held, A. Aksyonov believes, but "it's bad to give up your own lands anyway," whereas doing so in the present critical situation in the Soviet Union is "absolutely unacceptable."

Mayor Sobchak Arrives in Prague 14 Oct

LD1410165791 Moscow TASS in English 1519 GMT 14 Oct 91

[By TASS correspondent Vitaly Yaroshevsky]

[Text] Prague October 14 TASS—Member of the Presidential Consultative Council and Mayor of St. Petersburg Anatoly Sobchak arrived for a two-day visit in Prague today. He will discuss various aspects of Czechoslovak-Soviet relations with President Vaclav Havel, Prime Minister Petr Pithart, Foreign Minister Jiri Dienstbier and other officials.

"Our cooperation with Czechoslovakia is, in fact, almost at zero level, especially in the economic sphere," Sobchak told TASS. "I think both sides have displayed obvious shortsightedness. We have declared our intention to trade only for hard currency, but neither the Soviet Union nor Czechoslovakia have enough of it. This is a deadlock. On the other hand, it is perfectly clear that if we fail to save our East European market, this will create a tremendous economic problem for Czechoslovakia, Hungary, Poland and the Soviet Union."

Sobchak believes there are rather good prospects for negotiations to restore and even expand Soviet economic relations with the East European nations, including Czechoslovakia. "No matter what has marred our past relations, we come from the same stock, we have a common culture and a common future," Sobchak stressed. "If we want to survive and join the family of European nations, we must do it together. It is easier to traverse this road hand in hand."

Sobchak today met Milan Kondr, the mayor of Prague.

Kozyrev Visits France To Prepare Yeltsin Trip

Assesses Relations

LD1110091991 Moscow TASS in English 0829 GMT 11 Oct 91

[By TASS correspondent Igor Kuleshov]

[Text] Paris October 11 TASS—"People and the democratic leadership of the Russian Federation and, I believe, people of the Soviet Union, its leadership and President Mikhail Gorbachev have deep friendly feelings for French people and France," Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev said here on Thursday evening.

Kozyrev is heading a working delegation preparing for Russian President Boris Yeltsin's visit to France, scheduled for January-February 1992.

Kozyrev addressed French business people during a colloquium organised by the Paris LIBERATION newspaper with the participation of Moscow's NEZAVISIMAYA GAZETA newspaper, the Paris Chamber of Commerce and Industry and other French economic organisations.

The visit is an expression of the Russian residents' feelings and a new unity based on democracy, which Russian people defended near Russia's "White House," Kozyrev said.

"We hope that solidarity with Russia, expressed by France and other democratic Western countries during that serious period, will now transform into solidarity during peaceful construction of a pluralistic democracy and a market economy," Kozyrev said.

"We need assistance in our reforms. Overcoming our difficulties, we are planning to make everything possible for the development of both Soviet-French and Russian-French relations, making up their considerable part. In any case, they will develop in the context of our mutual friendly feelings," Kozyrev said.

The minister answered questions from the French Saint Gobain, Alcatel, Pechiney, Thomson, Air Liquide and other firms. He spoke about efforts by the Russian leadership to boost private businesses and foreign investment.

Remarks on Union, SFRY

LD1110192991 Paris Antenne-2 Television Network in French 1200 GMT 11 Oct 91

[Text] At this moment, Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev is in France. He is meeting Francois Mitterrand and Roland Dumas. On "Les 4 Verites" on "Telematin", he explained to Francois Ponchalet the need for the Soviet republics to sign a Union treaty quickly. Otherwise, according to him, they are likely to end up like Yugoslavia.

[Begin Kozyrev recording in Russian fading to French translation] We have learned from this experience that the stability of a post-communist regime—and Yugoslavia has certainly shown this—is not a matter of maintaining the status quo. These were states which were ill, which were unhealthy, so they must be treated with intensive therapy. There is a need to move as fast as possible, to form the structures of the state for greater stability. We have worked toward this goal. We favor political agreements, union agreements. We will make them in a way that does not revive the past. The past cannot justify itself. That is why it collapsed. A new democratic community must be established.

As far as Russia is concerned, as well as the representatives of the other ethnic groups, in the view of the Russian Federation, let us say, it is really our basic objective. We are trying to resolve these problems by agreements with the other republics and by reaffirming pan-European norms and human rights. This is what we really must stress. Human rights in the Russian Federation, and if possible, throughout all of the territory of the former Soviet Union. [end recording]

Meets Foreign Minister Dumas

LD1310133291 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1934 GMT 11 Oct 91

[By TASS correspondent Igor Kuleshov]

[Text] Paris, 12 Oct (TASS)—Questions on Russian President Boris Yeltsin's forthcoming visit to France at the beginning of next year were examined at a meeting on the evening of 11 October between French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas and Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev, who is here on an official working visit.

The sides think that the Russian president's visit must be filled with specific content and must take Russo-French relations to a qualitatively higher level.

An accord has been reached on creating five working groups on various aspects of cooperation between Russia and France, including foreign policy, economics, science, culture, and education. The groups will get to work at the beginning of November, and toward the middle of the month, when the French foreign minister's return visit to Moscow will be taking place, they will submit their proposals on the ways and forms of cooperation and on preparations for realizing specific projects.

Participants in the meeting observed that the development of direct Russo-French contacts will help strengthen and deepen all- European cooperation.

Concludes Visit 13 Oct

LD1410023891 Moscow TASS in English 1457 GMT 13 Oct 91

[By TASS correspondent Igor Kuleshev]

[Text] Paris October 13 TASS—"The go-ahead has been given for practical preparations for an official visit to France by Russia's President Boris Yeltsin—this is the chief result of our trip to Paris," Russian Foreign Minister Andrey Kozyrev, who has been here on an official visit, told Soviet journalists.

"The Russian president's visit, which is scheduled for the beginning of next year," the minister emphasised, "will be of symbolic moral and political importance as a factor in the revival of the traditional Russo-French relations multiplied now by the proximity of the democratic aspirations of the peoples of Russia and France and at the same time will have substance added to it".

"During the present talks, the two sides agreed to set up five working groups on all aspects of Russo-French contacts: foreign policy, security, economic relations and cultural exchanges," Kozyrev said.

"The main stages of work have been mapped out so that a package of draft documents could be available by approximately November 15 when French Foreign Minister Roland Dumas arrives in Moscow for a reply visit.

"As far as the political climate of the visit is concerned, we were literally overwhelmed by a wave of sympathies and respect for Russia, for the people of Russia, particulary after the defence of the 'White House'", Kozyrev said.

"We saw that in France there is political readiness for cooperation and that attitude towards us is the most well-wishing and friendly. This is the capital that we should not waste", Kozyrev said.

Finnish Foreign Minister Pays One-Day Visit

LD1010224991 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1738 GMT 9 Oct 91

[By TASS correspondent Vladimir Zlobin]

[Text] Petrozavodsk, 9 Oct (TASS)—Paavo Vaeyrynen, Finnish foreign minister, stated today during his unofficial one-day visit to Karelia that "cooperation between the border regions of our countries should become more effective."

During talks with Sergey Blinnikov, chairman of the Council of Ministers of the Karelian Autonomous Soviet Socialist Republic, he stated that the Finnish side was preparing a draft treaty with the Russian Soviet Federated Socialist Republic on cross-border cooperation between Finland on the one hand and Karelia, Leningrad, and Murmansk Oblasts on the other. In the very near future this draft will be presented for consideration by the Russian Government.

Among the problems discussed at the talks, particular attention was given to the question of the need to open new crossing points on the Soviet-Finnish border. It was noted that this was a necessary condition for the expansion of all-around links between the two countries, in particular for the development of trade and tourism.

Of great importance to the inhabitants of Karelia are the accords reached during the talks on their being given humanitarian aid during the coming winter by the Finnish side. Moreover, the minister expressed his readiness to promote talks on the granting of such aid by the United States and the countries of the European Community.

Replying to questions from journalists, Paavo Vaeyrynen touched on the theme of the former Finnish territories which are now part of Karelia and Leningrad Oblast. He said that Finland does not intend to raise the question of reviewing borders in the near future.

At the end of the visit the Finnish guest visited the suburban zone of Petrozavodsk, where he participated in a ceremony of the solemn opening of a House of Friendship named after Urho Kekkonen.

Silayev Receives Israeli Industrialists

LD1110120491 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1916 GMT 10 Oct 91

[By TASS correspondent Nikita Marunov]

[Text] Moscow, 10 Oct (TASS)— Ivan Silayev, chairman of the Interrepublican Economic Committee, today received a delegation from the Israeli Association of Industrialists.

Ways of expanding the cooperation between the two countries' business circles were discussed. It was noted that this would help saturate the Union market with goods and create an infrastructure for business in this country.

"I believe that Israeli entrepreneurs will find in our country a sphere for the application of their capital, knowledge, and experience," Ivan Silayev told a TASS correspondent. "While undoubtedly looking to their own commercial interests, they can help the development in our country of enterprise that, I am firmly convinced, will ultimately put our economy right. Some Western businessmen are still adopting a cautious attitude toward the situation in our country, having good grounds for that. But the fact that such a major group of industrialists is displaying interest in contacts with us is encouraging. It is necessary to create a favorable system for cooperation between Israeli and our businessmen."

Volskiy, Israeli Manufacturing Group Sign Pact

LD1110134491 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1958 GMT 10 Oct 91

[Text] Moscow, 10 Oct (TASS)— An agreement between the USSR Scientific-Industrial Union and the Israeli Manufacturers' Association was signed today in Moscow. USSR Scientific-Industrial Union President Arkadiy Volskiy and Israeli Manufacturers' Association President Dov Lautman appended their signatures to the document.

The agreement points out that the sides favor broad economic cooperation between the USSR and Israel, and will promote the development of contacts directly between enterprises in the two countries and the exchange of experience in the field of the establishment of a market economy—specifically, in the sphere of privatising the state sector of industry. There is provision for the regular holding of business meetings, seminars, and symposia.

Belorussia

Economics, Independence Top Parliament Agenda

OW1510191991 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1400 GMT 15 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] On Tuesday, the Belorussian parliament opened its regular session in Minsk. The agenda includes more than 30 items.

A number of draft laws to be discussed deal with the economic situation in Belorussia and with the republic's status as an independent sovereign state.

Some deputies doubt that Belorussia will cope with its problems without an economic union with other sovereign republics. Others think that one should reckon on one's own strength.

In the square opposite the building where the Belorussian Supreme Soviet works, deputies met with representatives of worker groups. The speakers expressed their concern about falling living standards and demanded that laws providing workers with social guarantees be adopted.

Trade, Cooperation Agreement With Poland

OW1410040891 Moscow INTERFAX in English 2223 GMT 13 Oct 91

[From the "Soviet Business Report"; transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Belorussia, a republic in western USSR, and Poland signed governmental agreement on trade and economic cooperation. After Belorussia places all border-protection and customs services under own authority, bilateral trade is expected to jump appreciably, said Mr. Vyacheslav Kebich, Belorussia's premier.

Diplomatic Relations Established With CSFR

LD1610095891 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1555 GMT 15 Oct 91

[By BELTA correspondent Tatyana Khryapina; item killed by TASS at 1647 GMT]

[Text] Minsk, 15 Oct (TASS)—An accord to establish consular and diplomatic relations between Belarus and Czechoslovakia has been reached during talks which have ended here. Rudolf Slanski, CSFR ambassador in the USSR, and Vladimir Zalomaya, deputy chairman of the Belarus Council of Ministers, took part in the talks. It is thought that general consulates will open in Minsk and Prague in the near future, to be followed by diplomatic missions.

Reportage on Prime Minister Kebich in Poland

WA1011140691

For reportage on the visit by Prime Minister Vyacheslav Kebich to Poland, including reports on his talks with Polish leaders and on the signing of bilateral relations and trade agreements, please see the Poland section of the 11 October East Europe DAILY REPORT and subsequent issues.

Moldova

Snegur Questions Move To Boycott Elections

OW1510192491 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1400 GMT 15 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Moldovan President, Mr. Mircea Snegur, said he was perplexed by the Moldovan Popular Front's decision to boycott presidential elections scheduled for December 8.

According to the Popular Front's sources, the boycott is motivated by the fact that only citizens who have lived in Moldova for the past 10 years can participate in presidential elections according to the law. Therefore, the Popular Front's candidate, Moldova's former Prime Minister Mr. Mircha Druk, cannot run for the presidency, because during the past ten years he mostly lived outside Moldova.

Meanwhile, Mr. Snegur is having meetings with the population of the the left-bank of the Dnestr. Local observers consider this to be the beginning of the election campaign, although Mr. Snegur himself describes his meetings with the electors as working.

Speaking to the electors in the Dubossary region, Mr. Snegur said that the Popular Front leaders had chosen open opposition to the current leadership of the republic, demanding that Moldova's and Romania's reunification be accelerated. Mr. Snegur said in this connection that "there can be no talk about Moldova's reunification with any other state." He reiterated his adherence to the course for Moldova's independence and described the Popular Front's position as provocative.

Ukraine

Kravchuk, Fokin View Economic Treaty

LD1410122991 Kiev Radio Kiev Network in Ukrainian 0600 GMT 12 Oct 91

[Excerpts] A session of the USSR State Council took place in the Kremlin yesterday. The official report reads that the following decisions were adopted on the issues discussed: on the treaty on economic cooperation, on the draft agreement of sovereign states on provision of foodstuffs in 1992, on the preparation of a treaty on the union of sovereign states, on the reorganization of the

USSR KGB, on the All-Union TV and Radio company, and on the Soviet position on issues of nuclear disarmament.

Yesterday Ukraine Supreme Soviet Chairman Leonid Kravchuk and Ukrainian Prime Minister Vitold Fokin, who were taking part in the State Council session, returned to Kiev from Moscow. At Boryspil airport they gave an interview to correspondents of the Ukrainian TV and Radio company.

[Begin recording] [Kravchuk] Maybe it could not be said that we are fully satisfied. However, the document which is very important for our republic, I want to (?say) about the Ukraine in the first place ...

[Fokin] And for collectives and enterprises.

[Kravchuk] The document can be called an economic interrepublican agreement. We managed to arrive at a conceptual examination and agreement. This is very important, it is the most important thing which has input from work collectives, especially large machanical engineering collectives and those of the defense complex, where they really are on the verge of stopping. So we came to an agreement that such an accord would be signed by around 15 October.

[Fokin] That is to say, the road is now open for signing intereconomic agreements. This is extremely important because our largest enterprises are absolutely not sure now about whether they will work at all in 1992.

[Unidentified correspondent] This is a purely economic, not a political agreement, is that right?

[Kravchuk] No, only an economic one. And what is very important is that the agreement corresponds with our economic documents or with documents of the Supreme Soviet and the Cabinet of Ministers which have been adopted lately on the basis of the Declaration and on the basis of the Law of Economic Independence; thus we are reserving for ourselves the most important thing one can talk about—we are not losing our economic independence. Because we always stressed that we would join in economic agreements, economic unions, and other associations. No country in the world now lives isolated or as an autonomy. [Passage omitted]

[Correspondent] Leonid Makarovych, here is the following question: did you manage to overcome cardinal differences between Russian and Ukrainian parties, as Vitold Parlovych said at the meeting with journalists the day before?

[Kravchuk] Vitold Pavlovych was in Alma-Ata and he expressed very principled remarks there. Some of them have reached the editorial commission and some are not included even now. However, Yavlinskiy, who made a report, said that the Ukraine's remarks and its particular viewpoint, which was expressed by Vitold Pavlovych in Alma-Ata, were not incorporated in full. But I am convinced, he said, that they can be incorporated. Then we said we requested that this phrase (?should not) remain only a phrase. And that everything we proposed should be included as it does not change the essence of the concept of the agreement itself but it only enriches it and leaves more autonomy and more possibilities for us to find our variants of solving economic problems.

[Fokin] I would like to add that just today we managed at last to come to an agreement with Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin that the agreement between the Ukraine and Russia will be signed, and we even agreed that our officials would work during the next week and the agreement has to be signed. I consider this to be a very considerable victory.

[Correspondent] Vitold Pavlovich, at the conference you said that during a conversation with Vice President Rutskoy he had said he had very serious intentions—you said it exactly like that, the expression is exactly that—I will quote...

[Fokin] Severe...

[Correspondent] Severe intentions with regard to Ukraine. Did you manage to soften the Russian leader's position on this?

[Fokin] Yes, we did, we managed. That is exactly what happened, because none of the representatives of Russia's governing bodies was able to give an answer to any question during Boris Nikolayevich Yeltsin's holiday. By the way, we do not experience anything like that. If we trust each other we work together. [Passage omitted]

[Kravchuk] I would only like to say one more thing. Sometimes one gets the following question: Ukraine and Russia already have an economic agreement—that is true. However, after what happened lately the need in such agreement is extremely great. And we stress everywhere in the Ukraine that the policy with Russia is a cornerstone of our policy in principle. This is not determined by current considerations only, but is our long-term policy. Whatever happens, both Russia and the Ukraine will be independent states—this is a general human democratic process. However, the way it will be determined in history today and for the futures is a policy for a long, long...

[Fokin] The policy of the future, yes the policy of the future. [passage omitted]

[Kravchuk] I would also like to tell you about one more thing. This is very important precisely for you journalists. The issue, which suddenly appeared unexpectedly for us and was one of the last issues of the agenda, was about giving more money for the TV and Radio company.

[Correspondent] [Passage indistinct]

[Kravchuk] For journalists, for the central TV and Radio company. Then we put the question in the following manner: I said openly that the central TV and the Russian TV are fanning—that is no exaggeration, anti-Ukrainian sentiments—slandering our intentions. They

do not even shrink from making hints in some ways about the Ukrainian leadership.

[Correspondent] In fact there is such a psychological war under way.

[Unidentified speaker] Yes, and in the newspapers too. We said we will not give a single ruble while we are here until we have been given the opportunity to respond to lies. If time is given to the Ukraine, be it during the day or I do not know when, at the central television and radio company so that we could go there with people's deputies, with our workers of culture and science and respond to everything which is being done concerning us, then we could do that. Otherwise we will not give money so that we hear crude insults or all sorts of insinuations. That is the first thing.

The second thing is: I have said that Russian Television is not very tolerant regarding the Ukraine. And the question arises: the Central TV and Radio company and the Russian TV and Radio Company are broadcasting to the Ukraine and other republics, they create psychological pressure, they create the corresponding opinion and even if we do respond it is only within the borders of the Ukraine.

Why is the Ukraine not heard by everybody? Why is Kazakhstan not heard by everybody? We have to have our days, our hours when we tell how the Ukraine lives what goals it pursues, so that people can see for themselves. Well, they have now got to saying such things as the Ukraine is fenced in with barbed wire, that there are tanks and rockets and our guys are going there dressed in Cossack uniforms and are not allowing anyone to go to other republics. [passage omitted]

[Kravchuk] Information which makes life in the Ukraine more complex, which leads to confrontation and which is meant to cause a quarrel between the Russian-speaking population and Ukrainians is inadmissible. I can never allow two Slav peoples—Ukrainians and Russians, and especially in the Ukraine where they have been living for 350 years, and this is their land... And we will be doing everything for that: a two-language newspaper is needed—there will be a two-language newspaper, instructions in two languages are needed. This will not be a problem. I will never believe that a Russian who lives in the Ukraine does not want to live in the Ukraine. We will create all conditions so that he will never be restricted in his actions by anyone. [passage omitted]

No one is looking for the national origins but for intellect, devotion, and and an attitude of service the people, not only Ukrainians but everybody who lives in the Ukraine. We will not allow the existence of even the slightest fact that someone is restricted, whether Jews or Poles or Hungarians or Greeks or Tatars. All of them will have normal live in the Ukraine. [passage omitted] [end recording]

That interview was given to correspondents of the Ukrainian TV and Radio company by Leonid Makarovych Kravchuk, Chairman of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet, and Vitold Pavlovych Fokin, the Prime Minister of the Ukraine, at Boryspil airport. I will add the following from a TASS report: A question connected to the decision of the Ukrainian parliament, which decided not to take an active part in the union's political live until 1 December, arose at the sitting of the State Council. Thus, it was decided on Gorbachev's initiative to propose to the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet that it take part in the preparation of the union treaty.

Fokin on Economy, 'Power Struggle'

LD1410231391 Kiev Radio Kiev Network in Ukrainian 0600 GMT 11 Oct 91

[Excerpts] Ukrainian Prime Minister Vitold Fokin yesterday held a news conference on the Ukrainian economy under genuine independence. Correspondents Valeriy Sydorenko and Vitaliy Naumenko report:

[Begin recording] [Sydorenko] Evaluating the current state of the economy, the prime minister chose to be laconic. All enterprises of the Republic lack action programs for the next year. There is no confidence that the partners will fulfill their delivery obligations. What is more, he stressed, the realities of life may turn—and very soon, at that—into a cold shower for all of us if we fail to come to some agreement.

[Naumenko] Which principle, in the prime minister's view, may guarantee peaceful life for us? Relations with Russia will be decisive. Of late, owing to the crisis within the Russian Government, certain negative tendencies are taking shape. It is precisely today that a session of the State Council will be held in Moscow, where Vitold Fokin will meet with Russian leaders. According to the prime minister, he still hopes that a cooperation agreement will be signed. He noted that, in global terms, the methods of concluding agreements should be fostered by large Republics—such as the Ukraine, Russia, Belarus, Kazakhstan—and the rest should follow. In this regard, the Ukrainian prime minister highly evaluated the recent meeting of republican leaders in Alma-Ata.

[Fokin] The meeting has been qualified as historic. May it be so, for the questions discussed there were of great importance for all of us, for all republics. First, I would like to express my absolute conviction in the fact that the agreement on the economic community should be signed, for I regard such an agreement as a pass into our future. However, on my returning home I was called by some an agent of Moscow. I would like to emphasize once again that we just cannot survive, especially today, in a separate way. To establish new relations and ignore the ones of the old amounts to suicide. An agreement between states—I stress, between states—of the former Soviet Union is badly needed, provided it will not subvert the state sovereignty of the signatories.

[Sydorenko] Vitold Fokin had to answer many questions that dealt with the crisis state of the econony and eventual ways to extricate ourselves from it. The procurement of cereals for the state's reserves is now the most acute problem for the Ukraine. No rationing of bread will be introduced, regardless of the conditions we encounter, the prime minister assured. To date, the state has purchased in the countryside 10.5 million tons of grain. Another 1.5 million tons will come from corn and groat crops. We remain short of 2-3 million tons. However, we have succeeded in concluding lucrative contracts with foreign firms for the delivery of this amount of cereals. By the way, these contracts are already being fulfilled. [passage omitted]

The prime minister also addressed the cadre changes within the government. He qualified its present composition as halfway between politics and economics. Changes will be introduced in the Finance Ministry. Minister Kovalenko intends to retire. The state committee for cereal products will be strengthened. We still haven't got a minister of higher education. Evidently, a mistake was made in appointing only one person to head the Ministry of Agriculture and Food. Judging by everything, this department will have to be divided. The Ministry of Transport will be created.

Of great importance will be the fact that, from 1 January 1992, all hard currency operations will be in the hands of the Ukraine's National Bank. Thus, all those farms which have fulfilled the state's orders for grain and stored enough feed for wintering their animals will have a real chance to earn hard currency sums by selling over-the-norm grain. [passage omitted] [end recording]

Prime Minister Vitold Fokin was asked whether he was pleased with his work, to which he replied: What we have now is a real power struggle. [Ukraine Supreme Soviet Chairman Leonid] Kravchuk and I are of the same mind, although attempts are often made at making us fall apart. However, we are determined to march together right to the end.

Of more interest at the news conference were economic problems. The question of creating our own currency was touched on, as well. In this regard, Fokin said that it is much easier to print our own money than to turn this ornamented paper into real money. He explained in detail the mechanism of backing national currency—that is, of strengthening the lever which will enable our economy to move from the deadend.

Defense Minister on Appointment, Situation

PM1110113991 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 9 Oct 91 First Edition p 2

["Interview in New Post" with Ukrainian Defense Minister Major General of Aviation K.P. Morozov by Captain Second Rank O. Odnokolenko; place and date not given: "Among Very Complex Problems"]

[Text] Many readers would like KRASNAYA ZVEZDA to familiarize them in its pages with those who now head the republic defense ministries and with their views and approaches to resolving the very complex problems connected with the resolution of defense questions. Today we offer for your attention an interview which Ukrainian Defense Minister Major General of Aviation K. Morozov granted to our correspondent.

[Odnokolenko] Konstantin Petrovich, how did it happen that they offered precisely you the post of Ukrainian minister of defense? Did it come as a surprise to you?

[Morozov] Yes, to a certain extent. At first representatives of the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet talked with me, but no specific offer was made at that time. It was a familiarizing conversation. Then Leonid Makarovich Kravchuk invited me. This time it was a concrete discussion, taking the previous one into account. It was then that the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet chairman offered me the post of defense minister of the Ukrainian state. Leonid Makarovich emphasized that, in his opinion, I was suited for this post. I in turn said how I saw the solution to the problem of creating the Ukraine's own armed forces and expounded my views.

[Odnokolenko] What is the Ukrainian Defense Ministry like now?

[Morozov] Just today, the day of our conversation, the decision has been reported to me that it is proposed to house the Defense Ministry's structures in the building at 8 Ordzhonikidze Street. As for the ministry's management structure, I can say the following. The Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Commission for Questions of Defense and State Security, the aktiv of the Ukrainian Officers' Union, and officials and staff specialists of the Kiev Military District and other military districts, whom we have asked to submit their views, are now completing the elaboration of the main draft laws which will be submitted to the Ukrainian parliament. Among others, a plan of Defense Ministry structures will be submitted. Although these documents have not yet been approved and are at the stage of being agreed, the general outline of the plan of our Defense Ministry has been worked out. But officially only the minister has been appointed.

[Odnokolenko] Will Colonel V. Martirosyan, the present leader of the Ukrainian Officers' Union, hold some post in the structures of the Defense Ministry?

[Morozov] I would not like to name specific names before the question has been finally decided. But a working study is being made of candidacies for relevant posts, including that of Vilen Arutyunovich.

[Odnokolenko] How will the Ukrainian Officers' Union as a whole be represented in the republic's armed forces?

[Morozov] I believe that those officers who are specialists in military matters and who have already put a lot of

effort into preparing the draft laws will be appointed to certain posts and will work on Defense Ministry committees and directorates.

[Odnokolenko] What, in your view, is the role of the Ministry of Defense in the Ukraine's new state structure?

[Morozov] Our Defense Ministry's chief task at the first stage is to plan all questions concerning the creation of those structures that will constitute the Ukrainian armed forces. The grouping of troops on Ukrainian territory has to be elucidated in detail. It must subsequently be broken down into forces which will remain subordinate to a common leadership with the participation of the Ukraine and those forces which will be the basis for creating the Ukrainian armed forces proper. This is the task at this stage. Then we must form management bodies and plan and draw up all the organizing documents which will enable us to prepare to take on the management of the forces of the grouping which has switched subordination.

[Odnokolenko] What is your view from Kiev of the Armed Forces throughout the territory which used to be called the Soviet Union—do you see them as united or unified? What, in your view, is the most sensible way to organize them from the political and strategic viewpoint?

[Morozov] It is up to the entities of the highest state power in the republics to decide on the basis of mutual accord whether the armed forces should be united. But every republic has the right to decide independently. The Ukraine has already decided this question for itself. The Supreme Soviet has adopted the Act of State Independence, adopted the resolution on military formations on Ukrainian territory, and so the question is clear to us. It is necessary to fulfill the assignment which the Supreme Soviet has set the Cabinet of Ministers: to form the Ministry of Defense and create our own armed forces. But we do not rule out the need for collective defense. We already count all the forces and means of strategic defense among the forces and means of collective defense not owned by the Ukraine.

[Odnokolenko] Will the Ukrainian Army's symbols change? What will the uniform look like?

[Morozov] It is hard to speak of this specifically at present. But the state symbols which have been adopted will undoubtedly be reflected in the military emblems. It will take time and the efforts of industry to change the uniform. But the uniform will change, of course, and will inherit attributes that are both national and traditional for the Ukrainian people's army, as the people's army must adhere to the people's traditions.

[Odnokolenko] But what about those Ukrainian officers who are now serving in other republics but who might wish to return to the Ukraine?

[Morozov] The resolution of this question will also be based on a state act. The question of citizenship has now been examined on its first reading. After being worked on in commissions, it will be adopted and will become the basis for all subsequent actions. Then a desire to return to the Ukraine from other republics and districts will be feasible. The only question will be how quickly it will be possible to resolve the questions of social backup which will, of course, arise during the move.

[Odnokolenko] What is your attitude to Rukh, Konstantin Petrovich? What can you say about this? In your own Lugansk Oblast, for example, by no means everyone supports this movement at present.

[Morozov] I know. I regard Rukh as a democratic organization which now occupies a worthy place in the organs of state management, participates on an equal footing in the creation of an independent democratic state, and works actively in all the Supreme Soviet's structures. In short, I take a positive attitude toward Rukh.

[Odnokolenko] Do you have any plans to have your own national newspaper?

[Morozov] Not a national one, as the question is not posed like this. Also we do not want to have a national army but precisely armed forces of the Ukraine, represented by all the nationalities that live in the Ukraine. In this way we eliminate the national question. But we will, of course, need our own press organ. We will certainly return to this question at some time.

[Odnokolenko] As you know, relations among the republics are not very simple at present. Interethnic problems have been complicated, and territorial disputes exacerbated. And when all the republics have their own military potential, conflicts between them could acquire a sinister hue...

[Morozov] Of course, we must all take measures to prevent anything like that. And, moreover, to prevent the very idea of using weapons. And we are endeavoring to do this.

[Odnokolenko] Have you already had contacts with the commanders of the districts located on Ukrainian territory? Do they all understand you, and are they all ready for constructive work?

[Morozov] I participated in a meeting between the district commanders and Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Chairman L. Kravchuk, during which views and opinions on the upcoming reformation were studied. I have not yet had a separate meeting with the commanders, because a whole number of problems still have to be resolved. But it must be pointed out that the question of relations with the commanders is a delicate one, and I am endeavoring particularly to be tactful here.

[Odnokolenko] There are very many military educational institutions on Ukrainian territory. How do you plan to use them?

[Morozov] This question really affects the interests of many people, and so it becomes a problem on its own. We believe that there will be within our Defense Ministry a committee on military education which will tackle the reforming of the system of military educational institutions on the basis of the essential need for cadres for the Ukrainian armed forces. But the interests of other republics will also be taken into account. I see it as the most important thing to preserve the scientific potential and the teaching materials base.

[Odnokolenko] The yards where aircraft carriers were built are still in the Ukraine. Will the Ukrainian armed forces have their own aircraft-carrying ships, their own fleet?

[Morozov] This is a very complex question, which the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet has to resolve. I believe that, since the Ukraine is a sea power, it must have its own navy. But in what form and what must be in its arsenal—this question is not yet being posed specifically.

[Odnokolenko] Konstantin Petrovich, how did your acquaintances and colleagues regard your appointment?

[Morozov] I have not heard any criticism of me, at least. But I have had very many congratulations—both verbal and written.

Supreme Soviet Stresses Permanence of Borders

PM1510131791 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 14 Oct 91 Union Edition p 2

[Sergey Tsikora report under the "Direct Line" rubric: "Will Things Be Quiet on the Border?"]

[Text] Kiev—The Ukrainian parliament's patience is exhausted from hearing calls for the republic's borders to be revised from first one then another group of separatists. Confirming for the umpteenth time that the Ukraine makes no territorial claims on its neighbors and will not allow its borders to be changed, the Supreme Soviet has substantially amended the republic's Criminal Code. It has adopted a law whereby "public calls for the violent overthrow or change of the state and social system, as well as appeals and other actions designed to violate the territorial integrity of the Ukraine or spread materials to that end calling for such actions are punishable by up to three years' imprisonment or a fine of up to 10,000 rubles [R]."

Should there be a repeat of these same actions or should they be organized by a group, they are punishable by up to seven years' imprisonment or a fine of up to R20,000. If these actions are carried out on the instructions of foreign organizations or their representatives, the punishment is even stiffer—you may get 10 years in jail and your property confiscated.

Donetsk Oblast Russians Urge Federal State

PM1610083391 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 11 Oct 91 Union Edition p 1

[Untitled report from IZVESTIYA, TASS, RIA, POSTFACTUM, AFP, REUTER roundup]

[Text] The Soviet of People's Deputies in Donetsk Oblast, where there is a majority Russian population, has adopted an appeal to the Ukrainian Supreme Soviet.

Specifically, it proposes that the following proposals be considered and realized: That a clause be introduced into the Ukraine's blueprint and draft constitution about a federal structure for the Ukraine; that the use of two state languages—Ukrainian and Russian—be enshrined in both documents; that a new draft constitution be discussed within the next two months, after which it is to be submitted for nationwide discussion; and that an interrepublic treaty on economic cooperation and a military treaty calling for a single command for interrepublic strategic forces to be signed as soon as possible.

Georgia

Gamsakhurdia Assesses Possible Coup Threat

AU1610094791 Vienna ORF Television Network in German 2010 GMT 15 Oct 91

[Interview with Georgian President Zviad Gamsakhurdia by Regina Strassegger; place and date not given—recorded]

[Text] [Strassegger] Georgia's national poet Rustaveli based his works on the following principle: The unperturbable leader in the struggle between good and evil. Gamsakhurdia also believes in this philosophy.

[Gamsakhurdia] Good always prevails over evil. This is Rustaveli's philosophy.

[Strassegger] So you believe in the principle of good and evil.

[Gamsakhurdia] Yes, I do.

[Strassegger] Are you the man who can save Georgia in this situation?

[Gamsakhurdia] Yes, nobody else can save the country. If I were to quit, anarchy and chaos would increase.

Reactionary forces in the Soviet Union and local Communists are planning a coup against our government. They want to install a new government, a pro-communist government in Georgia.

[Strassegger] You are not exactly gentle with your political opponents. You call them putchists and criminals, despite the fact that General Titovani or former Prime Minister Sigua, for example, used to be your friends. Don't think that you are too radical in your assessment?

[Gamsakhurdia] These friends are siding with the Communists now. Why? They are hungry for power. Friedrich Nietzsche said that every man wants power. These people are hungry for official power. We must form a coalition against them.

Sigua Cites Gamsakhurdia Support for Putschists

AU1610100891 Vienna ORF Television Network in German 2010 GMT 15 Oct 91

[Interview with former Georgian Prime Minister Tengiz Sigua by Regina Strassegger; place and date not given; Sigua statements in Georgian with superimposed German translation—recorded]

[Text] [Strassegger] Tengiz Sigua used to hold the second-highest office in Georgia, the office of prime minister. Sigua has changed his environment. His office is now on the third floor of the television center in Tbilisi, which used to be occupied until a few days ago. Sigua commented on his break with President Gamsakhurdia in the following way:

[Sigua] There are documents that prove that the president sympathized with the putschists in Moscow.

[Strassegger] Can you tell us details about your resignation?

[Sigua] I distanced myself from the president's policy. We no longer had anything in common in foreign policy, concerning the economy, or personally. One thing was clear: The president was not willing to carry out the land and economic reforms that he had promised.

There is no doubt that the president has changed a great deal. I am no psychiatrist. However, the former philanthropist has become unapproachable, stubborn, and very fearful.

Gugushvili Denies Bread Coupon Reports

LD1510162391

[Editorial Report] Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak Network in Russian at 1419 GMT on 15 October carries a three-minute recorded report by an unidentified IPRINDA correspondent, speaking on the telephone from Tbilisi, on a "groundless statement" circulated by TASS and "TV Inform" on 14 October that bread ration coupons had been introduced in Tbilisi.

The correspondent notes: "This categorical, completely groundless statement gave rise to a bad response in Georgia the more so as it was yesterday—after a month's break—that Central Television programs began to be relayed again for the first time. Georgian Prime Minister Vissarion Gugushvili spoke on the radio this morning on the subject and refuted the report. I have personally been to the shops, and there is nothing like that anywhere. On behalf of my agency, I would like to appeal to my TASS colleagues who transmitted this information: Let's not chase after sensational news; it does no credit to such a reputable agency as TASS."

Shevardnadze's Statements Seen as 'Provocation'

AU1610095091 Tbilisi Radio Tbilisi Network in Georgian 1520 GMT 15 Oct 91

[Text] Here is a statement issued by the president's press service:

Yesterday, on 13 October, Batoni [Georgian polite form of address] Eduard Shevardnadze answered television viewers' questions on central television.

Recognizing the will of the Georgian people, who have elected Zviad Gamsakhurdia as their president, the former USSR foreign minister spoke about a civil war in Georgia and expressed his readiness to mediate personally between the two opposing sides.

The questions read out by B[illegible]oni [name indistinct] that were raised by the inhabitants of Russian cities and the answers given by that person who has severed his links with Tbilisi and who is evidently using information

supplied by TASS and the former [words indistinct] agency have aroused indignation on the part of Georgian society.

It should be no less interesting for the television viewers to know that there is no civil war going on in Tbilisi and there is also no conflict (?between the two sides). The attempted coup against the popularly elected president has already failed.

There has been peace in Tbilisi for a number of days now. The situation is stabilizing. Batoni Eduard Shevardnadze's statement cannot be interpreted in any other way than as a provocation and an attempt to interfere in the internal affairs of a sovereign republic.

At present, Georgian society is alarmed by the escalation of violence in Samachablo [South Ossetia] where Ossetian extremists aided by USSR Interior Ministry troops have attacked Georgian villages, resulting in dozens of Georgian dead and wounded.

It is our firm belief that, if it is the intention of central television to shed light on current processes in Georgia, it should, first and foremost, express the pain suffered by the inhabitants of Georgia and should not impose upon the television viewers the thoughts of political figures no matter what rating they enjoy outside their motherland.

South Ossetian Situation, Clashes Reported

Police, Guardsmen Exchange Fire

OW1510193491 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1630 GMT 15 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] Fire exchanges between policemen and national guards no longer loyal to President Zviad Gamsakhurdia occurred near the Tbilisi Reservoir late on Monday night. As IF's [INTERFAX's] reporter learned at the "insurgent guard" headquarters, the shooting incident had followed a Tbilisi OMON [special purpose militia detachment] attack in which one national guard had been killed and two others wounded together with two civilian passers-by.

According to the Tbilisi Commandant's press center, it is the national guards who attacked a police patrol in a bid to steal their car. Two attackers were shot and wounded, the press center says.

Situation 'Out of Control'

PM1610092891 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 15 Oct 91 p 1

[Special correspondent O. Shapovalov report under the general heading "Parliamentary Debates Accompanied by the Rumble of Gunfire": "Tskhinvali"]

[Text] In the night of 12-13 October we witnessed the most powerful rocket-artillery bombardment of Tskhinvali in the past year, the second within a week. According to the calculations of staffers of the USSR MVD [Ministry of Internal Affairs] investigative operations group who are here, 68 hail-gun missiles and unguided missiles were fired from the surrounding heights. There was also firing from antiaircraft guns, machine guns, and automatic weapons.

The purpose of the bombardments is not in doubt. They cannot be attributed to combat operations against Ossetian armed formations: These formations are fighting in the outlying districts and villages. To intimidate the inhabitants and make as many of them as possible leave the city and join the 95,000 refugees who have already left Georgia—that is the hope. The Georgian gunmen, who, the military men believe, are not under the control of the republic government and obey only their own commanders' orders, are apparently not worried by the fact that there are also Georgian families and servicemen's families still in Tskhinvali. The city is being wiped out systematically and in cold blood.

Apart from a Soviet Army sapper unit and helicopter regiment, an internal forces operations group is also stationed in Tskhinvali. Whereas the first two are maintaining neutrality, having no clear oders from their command on how to act, the latter group is answering fire with fire, as a rule, in cases when servicemen's lives are at stake. The general opinion is that Tskhinvali will be taken by the Georgian side the day after these subunits leave. For the moment they are acting as a living and highly vulnerable buffer between the two sides. Obviously this cannot continue indefinitely. It is not only stray bullets that are hitting the military. Last weekend a checkpoint on the outskirts of Tskhinvali and an internal troops barracks were shelled. In early October Georgian gunmen fired on the helicopter regiment's checkpoint from a passing vehicle, seriously injuring an officer.

Immediate measures are needed to save human lives in the conflict zone—the lives of Georgians, Ossetians, Russians. The only "dialogue" that is proceeding openly, while the politicians play their backstage games over South Ossetia, is a dialogue in the language of machine guns, antiaircraft guns, and rocket launchers. The strength of Tskhinvali's defenders is running out. The oblast authorities have appealed for help to everyone possible—Presidents Gorbachev, Yeltsin, and Nazarbayev, Ukrainian Supreme Soviet Chairman Kravchuk, Defense Minister Shaposhnikov, and MVD Minister Barannikov, requesting help in evacuating all the children from Tskhinvali and the villages in the war-ravaged region. But will they be heard?

A particularly alarming situation has arisen in Znaurskiy Rayon, where many people have been killed or injured. In Znauri itself apartment blocks and a kindergarten were shelled, and a two-year-old boy was killed by

shrapnel from an antiaircraft shell. The situation in South Ossetia is believed to be getting out of control.

Casualties, Clashes Escalate

LD1510122191 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1120 GMT 15 Oct 91

[By correspondent Vladimir Gondusov]

[Text] Moscow, 15 Oct (TASS)— Reports reaching the operational group of USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs internal troops are increasingly alarming. Missile and artillery fire is continuing around Tskhinvali and population points in Znaurskiy rayon. The number of casualties is increasing. Some of them are children.

The situation has also deteriorated here in the last 24 hours because of an outbreak of hostage taking. First of all Ossetian paramilitaries seized over 20 people. The Georgian side was issued with an ultimatum: The hostages will only be released if the firing on Tskhinvali and other population points stops. In response to this, Georgian paramilitaries took hostages as well—several dozen, according to unconfirmed reports. The forces of law and order in the region are taking steps to free the hostages.

Unfortunately, the capability of internal troops of the USSR Ministry of Internal Affairs is clearly insufficient to counter illegal Georgian and Ossetian armed gangs effectively. The numbers of these armed gangs are on the increase in the region.

'Militant' Groups Take 20 Hostages

LD1510162991 Moscow TASS in English 1554 GMT 15 Oct 91

[By correspondent Vladimir Gondusov]

[Text] Moscow October 15 TASS—Reports received from Interior Ministry task force in South Ossetia become more alarming. Missile and artillery shellings of Tskhinvali and Znauri region continue. The number of casualties, including children, is growing.

During the previous day the situation worsened because of hostage seizures. Initially the Ossetian militant groupings captured a group of 20 hostages and released an ultimatum demanding Georgia stop shelling Tskhinvali and other settlements. Georgians retaliated by seizing several dozen hostages for themselves.

Law enforcement bodies are taking measures to secure the release of all hostages.

Regretfully, Interior Ministry troops are not enough to effectively counter Georgian and Ossetian gangs whose number is increasing.

Attacks Increase 'Considerably'

LD1510223591 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1534 GMT 15 Oct 91

[By special correspondent Igor Gvritishvili]

[Text] Tbilisi, 15 Oct (TASS)—Ossetian fighters' attacks on the Georgian population have recently been stepped up considerably in South Ossetia, says a Georgian Internal Affairs Ministry press center report published here today. The report affirms that the Ossetians have purchased in Russia 20 armored carriers and are mounting attacks on Georgian villages and that USSR Internal Affairs Ministry troops are mounting unjustified combat operations outside the emergency zone. They are detaining the population and carrying out searches and sometimes shooting at motor vehicles in Gori Rayon.

The report notes that an especially dangerous situation has been created in Kornisi Rayon, where operates the group of Vazha Adamiya, leader of the Merab Kostava Society, which until recently belonged to the "Round Table-Free Georgia" bloc. The press center says that this group's combat operations provoked the Ossetian fighters' attack on Georgian villages in this rayon.

Georgian National Security Council [NSC] has made a statement on the actions of Vazha Adamiya's combat group. It says, in part, that this group acts arbitrarily and that not one of its steps has been agreed with the official authorities or the NSC. In this regard, the NSC absolves itself of any responsibility for the actions of Vazha Adamiya's fighters in South Ossetia.

Attacks on Tskhinvali Increase

LD1510173291 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1511 GMT 15 Oct 91

[By correspondent Valeriy Shanayev]

[Text] Vladikavkaz, 15 Oct (TASS)—Tskhinvali was under fire last night from heavy machine guns, grenade launchers, and the "Alazani" hail dispersal systems by Georgian guerrillas, firing from the direction of villages outside the state of emergency regulations. Nine-storey residential buildings and some municipal facilities sustained serious damage. Preliminary reports indicate seven people were injured. The Ossetian side returned fire. The Znauri settlement, a rayon center, again came under armed attack. Five people there sustained firearm injuries, and a child was killed.

The South Ossetian Information Committee press center reports that guerrilla attacks on USSR Internal Affairs Ministry troop checkpoints and on the military camp of a helicopter regiment on the outskirts of Tskhinvali have become more frequent over the past 72 hours. The aim of these operations is to seize weapons and communications and transport equipment. The situation in the Ossetian villages in Tskhinvalskiy and Znaurskiy rayons, where at nighttime guerrillas seize hostages, hijack motor

vehicles, and take farm cattle and agricultural produce from basements, is not getting any better either. Meanwhile, a concentration of forces of armed Georgian guerrillas, on the move toward Tskhinvali, has again been observed near Avnevi village.

Armenia

Dashnak Candidate for Presidency Interviewed

PM1610102691 Moscow KOMSOMOLSKAYA PRAVDA in Russian 15 Oct 91 p 2

[Interview with S. Sarkisyan, USSR people's deputy and Dashnak party candidate for the Armenian presidency, by correspondent V. Aloyan in Yerevan—date not given: "The Dashnaks Are Not Frightened of the Union..."]

[Excerpts] The revolutionary party "Dashnaktsutyun" (to give it its full name), which returned this year after 70 years in exile, has joined the election contest for the post of Armenia's first president. The Dashnaks have nominated as their presidential candidate S. Sarkisyan, USSR people's deputy and people's artist of the USSR. [passage omitted]

[Aloyan] I know there are differences on foreign policy issues. You are opposed to the principle presented by the new authorities, who proclaim that a nation can have no perpetual allies or enemies, but only the interests of the nation. In many people's eyes today a member of the Dashnaktsutyun party is automatically a Russophile and a Turkophobe.

[Sarkisyan] It is no use exaggerating. If we want to see Armenia really strong and independent, it must be strong and independent economically first of all. To develop one-sidedly, that is, to have economic ties only with Russia, is no solution. What is needed is openness to all.

We need to do intensive work in the East. Unfortunately, for hundreds of years we have lived among peoples who profess Islam, yet without finding a key to mutual intercourse. Contact must also be sought with Arab countries. An eternal peace treaty should also be signed with Georgia, recording on paper the fact that there is nothing to divide us.

About relations with Azerbaijan. Many complex questions, mutual reproaches, and grievances have accumulated. But in our view we should not dwell on them. We should rely on the common sense of two peoples. It is God's will that we live alongside each other, we cannot part, we cannot change! We must arm ourselves with patience. As for the root causes of the conflict, our position is this: The people of [Nagorno-]Karabakh, like any other people, have the right to self-determination.

Our main disagreements with the Armenian Pannational Movement are on the question of relations with Turkey. The saying that a nation has no perpetual enemies or allies was uttered by an English statesman in the days when Britannia ruled the waves and could afford such a principle. For us, it is only good intentions as yet. First we still have to find out whether the Turks themselves have stopped seeing us as enemies. Their guilt before us is too great, too many serious issues still remain.

[Aloyan] What is your view of the idea of a union of sovereign states on the territory of the former USSR?

[Sarkisyan] I have said before that we are not afraid of the word "socialism." Nor are we afraid of the word "union," which many people associate with the adjective "Soviet." All the same, if the empire finally disintegrates, we will have to choose our allies from among the peoples that used to make up the empire. Any country in the globe today is in a union with someone or other—a political, economic, or cultural union. It should be a union on treaty principles, on equal terms, with no senior and junior members. [passage omitted]

Azerbaijan

Mutalibov: Economic Community 'in Principle'

LD1510210891 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1541 GMT 15 Oct 91

[Text] Baku, 15 Oct (AZERINFORM-TASS)—Azeri President Ayaz Mutalibov said today that it is "in principle necessary" that the former Soviet republics conclude an agreement on an economic community.

Voiced in an interview with your AZERINFORM-TASS correspondent, this statement is important because last week some Azeri officials made accession by the Republic to an economic agreement conditional upon handover to it of all armaments held by Soviet Army units deployed on its territory. Observers believe that these armaments could be used in the conflict between Azerbaijan and Armenia over Nagorno-Karabakh.

The Azeri president's explanation for this was that each republic will be mindful of its own particular circumstances when signing an economic agreement. Azerbaijan, he added, is currently "in a war situation," and thus debate on the economic agreement in the Republic "is linked to the question of forming self-defense forces for Azerbaijan."

Mutalibov said that since the economic agreement requires each republic "to make and continue to make its contribution" to arms production, "then we are entitled to expect a certain amount of arms for our own needs."

Andrey Grachev, head of the USSR president's press service, today told a Moscow briefing that Azerbaijan is one of the ten Republics that have committed themselves to signing an agreement on an economic community.

Warns USSR Council on Economic Union

NC1610082291 Baku Radio Baku Network in Azeri 1800 GMT 12 Oct 91

[Text] President Mikhail Gorbachev has chaired a meeting of the State Council in the Kremlin. The leaders of Azerbaijan, Belorussia, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, [word indistinct], Tajikistan, Turkmenia, Uzbekistan, Ukraine, and Armenia participated in the convocation. The meeting participants examined the agreement on the economic union among the republics and the draft plans which have been drawn up for supplying provisions. They also exchanged views on the question of [word indistinct] on the draft agreement related to the economy of the sovereign republics.

President Ayaz Mutalibov of Azerbaijan expressed his opinion on the signing of the agreement on the economic union. Addressing the State Council's meeting, Mutalibov said: Aggression is being maintained against the Azerbaijan Republic. In view of this, Azerbaijan has moved to establish its own armed forces. Under the existing conditions, the people are worried. They may not agree to support the agreement. Azerbaijan will sign the agreement only when the Soviet Armed Forces supply all the needs of the military forces that are being established in the republic.

During the process of discussions, the meeting participants disclosed that they would agree to sign the agreement on the economic union by 15 October. [passage omitted]

Mutalibov Notes 'State of Real War'

OW1510194991 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1630 GMT 15 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] President Ayaz Mutalibov of Azerbaijan has suggested that all the republics that attended the latest session of the USSR State Council and the recent conference in Alma-Ata should conclude bilateral treaties without delay as a token of their recognition of horizontal inter-republican ties as the basis of the future economic and political community.

In his interview for the official news agency AZERINFORM, Mr. Mutalibov stressed the point that he had spoken out at the State Council session in support of the treaty of economic union.

Commenting on the conflict with Armenia, the Azerbaijani leader said his republic "is in a state of real war. The (Armenian—IF [INTERFAX]) invasion, far from subsiding after the goodwill mission of Boris Yeltsin and Nursultan Nazarbayev, has continued to expand." According to A. Mutalibov, the Azerbaijanis tie up their national security with the establishment of republican armed forces. "Since each republic has contributed certain funds to the country's defense potential, we are fully justified in retaining for inside needs what's due to us," Mutalibov observed.

He accused Moscow of inability to take resolute steps to localize the conflict in Nagorno-Karabakh. "It follows," he concluded, "that we must have the republic's territory and borders protected by Azerbaijanis themselves."

Mutalibov Addresses NKAO Issue

LD1610091791 Moscow All-Union Radio Mayak Network in Russian 0700 GMT 16 Oct 91

[Text] Various aspects of the work to resolve the [Nagorno-]Karabakh [Autonomous Oblast, NKAO] conflict were examined in Baku during a meeting between Azerbaijan President Ayaz Mutalibov and groups of observers from the Russian [Soviet] Federation [Socialist Republic, RFSFR] and Kazakhstan. The groups arrived yesterday in the Azerbaijani capital to continue their mediatory mission. According to a communique signed earlier in Zheleznovodsk, the observers are entrusted with drawing up measures for a cease-fire, to render ineffective all illegal armed groupings, and create guarantees for the safety of all citizens living within the conflict zone.

Withdrawal of Military Hardware Continues

OW1510155391 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1500 GMT 15 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] IF's [INTERFAX's] correspondent quotes the press center of the Azerbaijani Popular Front [APF] as saying that military hardware continued on Monday to be withdrawn from the city of Gyandja. According to the APF, the hardware, which includes armored personnel carriers, artillery pieces and the like, is being flown away on transport planes. The military aerodrome at Gyandja is surrounded by troops.

The APF press center reports that 13 howitzers were withdrawn from the Gubadly district of Azerbaijan on Tuesday [15 October] and another 8 are ready for shipping.

Central Asian Affairs

Prospects for Islam's Political Role Assessed

PM1610091591 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 12 Oct 91 Union Edition p 10

[G. Melikyants article: "Islam and Central Asia"]

[Text] People are thinking increasingly about the fate of Central Asia and its now-independent republics. The tragedies in Fergana and Osh and the clashes elsewhere, which were not as acute but also had grave consequences, have made everyone feel uneasy, not to say seriously frightened. The long confrontation in Dushanbe has recalled far from cheerful prospects. There is indeed something to be anxious about: The process is under way, as people here say with bitter irony. But where is it going?

There is no simple answer to this question and there can be none at present. On the other hand, there are plenty of predictions regarding the future of this area, which is huge by any standards. Let us not be mealymouthed—it is a region that is vitally important for all the other republics which, out of inertia, many people continue to think of as parts of the "native land." One way or another, it is the Central Asian republics and Kazakhstan, despite the grave misgivings of pessimists, that have turned out to be the firmest supporters of a policy of agreement in the name of a future Union.

Is this devotion to the past? Or, Allah forbid, a kind of camouflage? Or maybe it is something else again—ordinary pragmatism, a literal understanding of short- and long-term interests? I would proceed on the basis of the interests of the people of Central Asia, primarily the indigenous peoples, and of their living conditions in making predictions about their future. I stress: on the basis of their interests and their conditions, and not someone else's.

...I was born in Uzbekistan and started work there. I was never afraid of having to express myself in Uzbek if the need arose. In time I became convinced that a republic where families have an average of five children, for instance, cannot live according to a Moscow pattern. And indeed, the concept of democracy there was always (and still is today) the republic's **own** one, colored by the people's way of life and by unsuccessfully discouraged Islamic traditions. And if someone tells me that you cannot have two kinds of democracy, I would answer that human rights should be universal, but the organization of life can differ—compare Japan with the United States, for example.

And now think of the 300,000 hectares of irrigated land tacked onto meager personal plots from the cotton fields which were encroaching on people's homes and hearts. Add the fact that participants in the war have been freely given the housing they occupied. Compensation over the price hikes has been set at 100 rubles in the republic, and not 60. School uniform is sold at half price. School dinners are free up to the fifth grade. Rural schoolteachers do not have to pay rent or for municipal services. For Uzbekistan, which lags behind everyone in all social categories, these are only the first steps out of the mire. But they have been taken! President Karimov has touched the most sensitive chords with a republic where families are large. Is this populism? Perhaps, but it is concrete action too.

Changes have also been made in the political sphere. Communists have been renamed People's Democrats. A name that is logical for Uzbekistan in regard to both the results of development and tasks. But has the party ceased to be communist? I maintain from my own observations that, even before, a great many party members did not conform to the way this title was being presented in the documents known to all of us. These people were ordinary instruments of power. Of course, many represented different clans, but the main thing is that a body of professional administrators was cobbled together out of them. And that is what they remained. The question now is not the extent to which this body is competent. The people in it will probably change until there has been complete turnover. The reality, however, is that at local level they are seen as representing power and not ideology—the ideology is a mishmash. And this is a feature not just of Uzbekistan.

Another registered party—"Erk," which brings together part of the intelligentsia—has split away from the "Birlik" movement, which contains the whole opposition, from radicals to Muslim fundamentalists. Unlike Tajikistan, Islam has not yet been formalized as a party here. Maybe it soon will be. But does it have the prospects of assuming power? I think that the clergy's participation in public life may reach high levels. But to become the state power...

The issue here is not the "Islamophobia" which is allegedly being fostered—in my opinion, this is a bogey like "Russophobia." Nor is it the fact that life has gone a long way down the secular path (this did not hinder Khomeyni). The point is that Uzbekistan, with its 20 million inhabitants, has become a multinational land in the past 130 years. Though it is entirely fair to give the Uzbek language priority, this is a phenomenon which must logically be taken into consideration when determining the main interests of the indigenous nation. But do people always act logically everywhere? The modern history of the Muslim world and of African countries shows that they nevertheless behave logically increasingly often. Particularly since the proportion of non-Muslims in the Central Asian independent states is far higher than in any country in the Muslim East.

I think that the people who understand this will be supported here. By everyone.

Kazakhstan

Nazarbayev Speaks on Inauguration of New Party

PM1510092391 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 7 Oct 91 Moscow Evening Edition p 1

[Unattributed report from IZVESTIYA, TASS, RIA, INTERFAX, and REUTER roundup]

[Text] Nursultan Nazarbayev: All the republics will be opposed to being legal heir to a such a state as the USSR.

The Kazakh president said this when addressing a conference of a number of social organizations and movements on the creation of the "People's Congress of Kazakhstan" party. The fact that it has been created by all the people is the achievement of everyone, and that is how it should be, he added.

The conference adopted a statement which notes that the statements of Gennadiy Burbulis and Sergey Stankevich could "wreck the conclusion of the economic union of sovereign states."

Further on Nazarbayev-Baker Call

LD1510105591 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1020 GMT 15 Oct 91

[Text] Alma-Ata, 15 Oct (TASS)—It has become known from reliable sources here that U.S. Secretary of State James Baker, who is at present in the Middle East, telephoned President Nursultan Nazarbayev of Kazakhstan late last night from Amman, the capital of Jordan.

The head of the U.S. foreign political department voiced satisfaction with the results of the meeting of the heads of 13 sovereign republics in Alma-Ata. Speaking of the results of the USSR State Council session held the other day, at which the draft agreement on the economic community was discussed, he spoke highly of the role of Kazakhstan in consolidating Soviet society.

Nursultan Nazarbayev, for his part, talked about the sociopolitical situation in the republic and the country, and about the directions being explored to find a way our of the political and economic crisis. Baker declared his intention of making another visit to Kazakhstan and meeting with Nursultan Nazarbayev. On behalf of U.S. President George Bush he wished the republican leader success in the policies he is conducting, which are aimed at stabilizing the situation in Kazakhstan and the country as a whole.

Stray Missiles Continue To Fall

92US0054A Moscow TRUD in Russian 9 Oct 91 p 1

[Article by O. Kvyatkovskiy: "Missiles Are Falling From Nowhere"]

[Text] Kazakh SSR—**The people of western Kazakhstan are tired of living under bombs. The latest incident with one of the military's missiles "gone astray" is the straw that broke the camel's back.**

Over the course of 40 years, missiles flying in "from out of nowhere" have landed in this vast region from time to time. Until recently such "extraordinary situations" constituted a dreadful secret. Today that is not the case.

The latest bombardment of the republic's western territories only avoided casualties by sheer luck—the missile fell short of the Inderborskiy Rayon center in Guryev Oblast by just two kilometers. The incident was the final blow in arousing the indignation of Guryev residents, who have already suffered real combat casualties from the local firing range. (In February 1975, a missile explosion destroyed two apartment buildings in the oblast center, killing 14 persons). Diverse firing ranges of the USSR Ministry of Defense occupy 15 percent of the entire oblast territory. Little settlements such as Temirbay, Taysogan, Zhamansor, Oytay, and Kenbay are literally situated on a powder keg.

A few days ago a resolution of the Guryev Oblast Soviet of People's Deputies signed by its chairman, G. Aldamzharov, was transmitted to Presidents M. Gorbachev and N. Nazarbayev. This document completely prohibits the activity of military firing ranges in the territory of Guryev Oblast and expresses demands for land reclamation, clearing the territory of remaining military articles, and a determination of the amounts and time frames for payment of compensation for damages inflicted.

Kyrgyzstan

Presidential Election Vote Reported

OW1510190891 Moscow INTERFAX in English 1400 GMT 15 Oct 91

[Transmitted via KYODO]

[Text] The Central Commission for the Election of Kyrgyzstan President reports that 89.03 percent of the electors turned up at the polling stations on October 12.

The "yes" vote for the only candidate, Mr. Askar Akayev, was cast by 95.3 percent of the electors; 4.6 percent of the voters said "no."

Akayev Assesses Victory

LD1510211191 Moscow Central Television Vostok Program and Orbita Networks in Russian 1630 GMT 14 Oct 91

[From the "TV Inform" newscast]

[Text] Probably nobody in the Republic of Kyrgyzstan doubts that Askar Akayev will remain the republican president as a result of the nationwide elections which

took place on 12 October, just as very few people expected the success to be so overwhelming—a total of 95 percent voted positively. It must be noted that special representatives from Russia, the Ukraine, the Baltic republics, the Transcaucasus, and Central Asia, as well as 30 foreign correspondents accredited in Moscow, watched the progress of the voting.

At the news conference which announced the results of the elections, Askar Akayev said that because he had no rivals, he set his own target: If he were to get less than 68 percent of votes, he would have resigned. Two million voters have deprived him of the opportunity to demonstrate a noble gesture which is so rare even today. The largest shortfall of votes—in excess of six percent—was in Bishkek and Chuy oblast, home of most of the non-Kyrgyz population, the Russians, Ukrainians, Germans, Dungans, Uyghurs, and other ethnic minorities. The reason for this is obvious—the fear of discrimination and interethnic frictions in conditions of the country's disintegration.

[Begin Akayev recording] The parliament of our republic was the first among the parliaments of the Union republics to ratify the declaration of the last congress of USSR People's Deputies on personal rights and freedoms. At present we are working on a draft law on protecting the rights of ethnic minorities. [end recording]

The fact that Akayev categorically rejects Yavlinskiy's draft plan which was presented in Alma-Ata is well know. Many critical remarks have been taken into account. What is the situation now?

[Begin Akayev recording] If the signing is to take place on 15 October we are ready to sign this document. We think that now it meets the main demand that we have presented regarding this document—the treaty on economic community . It takes into account the interests of the republics and, in particular, the interests of our republic to the maximum.

Tajikistan

Deputies Protest Communist Party's Suspension

PM151015391 Moscow KRASNAYA ZVEZDA in Russian 12 Oct 91 First Edition p 2

[TASS report under the "Panorama of Events Around the Country" rubric: "Protest Made"]

[Text] Dushanbe—A group of USSR and Tajik people's deputies have protested a number of what they consider to be anticonstitutional acts recently committed by the republic parliament and its presidium. That is what the "Statement by the 19," published in the local press, says.

The statement's authors consider the suspension of the activities of the Tajik Communist Party and its successor, before its degree of guilt in the infamous August events has been established, to be one of the anticonstitutional acts. This "is in breach of the republic's Constitution and the republic Law on Public Associations, which provide no legal grounds for temporarily suspending any political party's activities, and they are being banned merely on the basis of a judicial decision."

The group of 19 is also protesting the recent republic Supreme Soviet Presidium resolution which, "in violation of the law, recommended that representatives of the Islamic Revival Party, which to this day has not been registered in the republic, be included as members of electoral commissions for the Tajik presidential elections."

Turkmenia

Talks at Presidential Level With Iran Noted

PM101015279l Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 10 Oct 91 Union Edition p 2

[Vladimir Kuleshov report under "Direct Line" rubric: "Iran Intends To Cooperate With Turkmenia"]

[Text] Ashkhabad—President Hashemi-Rafsanjani of the Islamic Republic of Iran emphasized in conversation with Turkmen President S. Niyazov: "One of the principles of Iran's Constitution is to lend priority to the development of relations with neighboring Islamic countries, which include the Turkmen Soviet Socialist Republic."

This is the first time in the history of the two neighboring states—Soviet Turkmenia and the Islamic Republic of Iran—that friendly talks have been held at presidential level. It is the first time a Turkmen Government delegation headed by the republic's president, S. Niyazov, has arrived in the Iranian capital on an official visit.

The fruits of the new approaches in politics can already be seen today: The Gaudan-Pachkyran simplified border crossing post has been opened in the Gaudan border sector near Ashkhabad. Residents living in Turkmenia's border regions and in Iran's Khorasan Province are now able to visit relatives and acquaintances and to stay with them. Crossing points will be opened on the border with Iran next year in the regions of the settlements of Gasan-Kuli, Kizyl-Atrek, and Kara-Kala.

"We are vitally interested in active and all-around cooperation with our southern neighbor, with whom the Turkmen people are linked by a great deal both in the past and in the present," Turkmen President Niyazov declared in conversation with Iranian President Hashemi-Rafsanjani. "We advocate serious cooperation with Iran in such spheres as the development of transportation, border trade, and the joint construction of dams on border rivers, and in the spheres of culture and science."

Cooperation Memorandum Signed

LD1010093191 Moscow TASS International Service in Russian 1729 GMT 9 Oct 91

[By correspondent Oleg Kuzmin]

[Text] Tehran, 9 Oct (TASS)— The visit to Tehran by a delegation from Turkmenia, led by Turkmen President S.A. Niyazov, ended today. In the morning the delegation visited the 17th traditional Tehran Fair. In the afternoon, before leaving for Sari, the ceremony of signing a memorandum on bilateral cooperation in culture, economy, and science took place. The document was signed at Mehrabad Airport by Turkmenia President S.A. Niyazov and by 'Ali Akbar Velayati, minister of foreign affairs of the Islamic Republic of Iran.

The memorandum envisions considerable expansion of ties between the two neighbor republics. Specifically, an accord was reached on constructing a Mashhad-Serakhs-Tedzhen railroad. The relatively short stretch of railroad from the Turkmen side will make it possible to link Tedzhen with Mashhad, thereby creating a new trans-Asia rail route. An agreement on joint construction and operation of hydro-installations on border rivers for the purposes of more efficiently using water resources has great importance for both sides.

The memorandum also envisions exchanges of experience in agricultural production and a rise in the volumes of mutual trade.

According to the document, Turkmen and Iranian consulates and trade missions are to open in Tehran and Ashkhabad, respectively, in the near future, as well as news bureaus. A wide program of cultural exchanges and cooperation in science and higher education has been drawn up.

Before signing the memorandum, S.A. Niyazov and A.A. Velayati expressed satisfaction with the results of the work done in Tehran. The Turkmen delegation's official visit has not ended with its departure from Tehran. The delegation will visit Sari, where quite a few Turkmen people live, and Mashhad.

Uzbekistan

Sobchak, Karimov Confer, Sign Communique

PM1110124591 Moscow IZVESTIYA in Russian 9 Oct 91 Union Edition p 2

[Andrey Orlov report under "Direct Line" rubric: "I. Karimov and A. Sobchak Meet"]

[Text] Tashkent—Talks culminating in the signing of joint documents took place between the Uzbek Republic Government and St. Petersburg City Hall.

Uzbek President I. Karimov and Mayor of St. Petersburg A. Sobchak reached an agreement on cooperation on the basis of equality and mutual advantage, sensible expediency, and good-neighborly relations.

The talks' main aim was to develop trade and economic ties between Uzbekistan and St. Petersburg. The signed communique indicates that the sides will maintain the reciprocal exchange of technical products, consumer goods, and food at the 1990 level.

And in the future, starting in 1992, trade and economic cooperation will be carried out through a mutually agreed products list and balanced product volumes. Direct contacts will be forged by enterprises and economic units.

It is planned to conclude an agreement between the sides that should become part of the economic agreement between Uzbekistan and Russia.